FILED
SEP 01 2020
CLERK SUPREME COURT

In the Iowa Supreme Court

In the Matter of Ongoing Provisions for Coronavirus/COVID-19 Impact on Court Services	)))	**Sept. 1, 2020 Order**

This order supplements existing supervisory orders relating to the novel coronavirus COVID-19, including the May 22, 2020 order. Those orders remain in effect except to the extent they conflict with the terms of this order. The Iowa Judicial Branch continues to carefully monitor the public health situation, balancing the need to take measures to reduce the spread of the virus with its commitment to conducting business as necessary. Accordingly, the supreme court directs as follows pursuant to its available legal authority, including Article III, section 1, and Article V, section 1, of the Iowa Constitution.

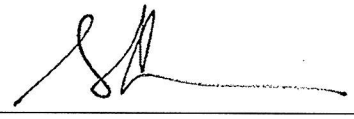
Judicial Discretion Regarding Remote Technology in Certain Juvenile Proceedings

Through December 31, 2020, juvenile courts may order that any proceeding in cases filed under Iowa Code Chapters 232 and 600A may be conducted with the parties or participants appearing remotely by videoconference or telephone. This includes child-in-need-of-assistance adjudications, dispositional hearings, and terminations of parental rights. Any order directing a proceeding by videoconference or telephone may be entered over the objection of a party, but only after that party has an opportunity to be heard. If the juvenile court proposes a proceeding by videoconference or telephone, the presumption shall be in favor of going forth in that manner. Attorneys and self-represented litigants shall articulate in their objections the reasons constituting good cause for an in-person proceeding.

Juvenile delinquency adjudication proceedings may be held by videoconference or telephone only by consent of the parties.

Dated this 1st day of September, 2020.

The Iowa Supreme Court

By 

Susan Larson Christensen, Chief Justice

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