*Court News ...*

**2020-03-19-01**

# The Supreme Court of South Carolina

**RE: Mediation Settlement Conferences**

ORDER

In recognition of the difficulties the COVID-19 pandemic may have on lawyers, parties, and other persons whose physical presence is ordinarily required in mediation settlement conferences governed by the South Carolina Court-Annexed Alternative Dispute Resolution Rules, I find it necessary to temporarily adjust the usual manner of attendance at mediation settlement conferences required by Rule 6(b) of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Rules.

Pursuant to Article V, Section 4 of the South Carolina Constitution, it is ordered that, upon the request of a required attendee, the Chief Judge for Administrative Purposes of the circuit shall issue an order permitting attendance by video conferencing.

This Order is effectively immediately and remains in effect until modified or rescinded by order of the Chief Justice.

s/Donald W. Beatty
Donald W. Beatty
Chief Justice of South Carolina

Columbia, South Carolina
March 19, 2020