

COVID-19 COURT PROCEDURES
NEW HANOVER COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

1. ONLY PROCEEDINGS INVOLVING IN-CUSTODY DEFENDANTS WILL BE CONDUCTED.
2. NO MORE THAN 10 PERSONS IN THE COURTROOM AT A TIME.
3. ALL PROCEEDINGS SHALL BE CONDUCTED BY REMOTE AUDIO-VISUAL TRANSMISSION.
4. TO PROCEED WITH A HEARING BY REMOTE AUDIO-VISUAL TRANSMISSION, THE DEFENDANT MUST CONSENT TO AUDIO-VISUAL TRANSMISSION AND MUST WAIVE ANY RIGHT TO IN-PERSON CONFRONTATION OR PRESENCE BEFORE THE HEARING MAY BE CONDUCTED REMOTELY.
5. EACH PARTY TO A REMOTE PROCEEDING MUST BE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE FULLY AND CONFIDENTIALLY WITH THEIR ATTORNEY IF THE PARTY IS REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY.
6. IF THE DEFENDANT DOES NOT CONSENT TO A HEARING BY REMOTE AUDIO-VISUAL TRANSMISSION OR IF IT IS OTHERWISE NECESSARY FOR THE DEFENDANT TO APPEAR IN PERSON, BEFORE COMING INTO THE COURTROOM AND BEFORE COMING TO THE DEFENSE TABLE, THE DEFENDANT MUST USE HAND SANITIZER.
7. EACH DEFENDANT WILL BE AFFIRMED.
8. ALL PERSONS PRESENT IN THE COURTROOM SHALL MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING BY SITTING AT LEAST SIX (6) FEET APART.
9. THE COURT IS OPEN, AND THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND, BUT THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO ATTEND WILL BE LIMITED. ONLY ATTORNEYS, DEFENDANTS AND PROBATION OFFICERS ARE ALLOWED INSIDE THE BAR.
10. EVERYONE WHO COMES INTO THE COURTROOM MUST USE HAND SANITIZER BEFORE ENTERING THE COURTROOM.

This the day of April, 2020.



Phyllis M. Gorham

Senior Resident Superior Court Judge