

STATE OF INDIANA ) LAPORTE SUPERIOR COURT 1  
 ) SS:  
COUNTY OF LAPORTE ) MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA

IN RE THE MATTER OF: )  
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 Petitioner, )  
 )  
vs. ) CAUSE NO.: 46D01-  
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, )  
 )  
 Respondent. )

**ORDER REQUIRING REMOTE APPEARANCE IN EVIDENTIARY PROCEEDING**

Due to the public health crisis associated with the COVID-19 virus, and consistent with the Indiana Supreme Court’s Administrative Rule 17 Orders, the Court now Orders:

1. The evidentiary proceeding set in this case for “HEARING DATE”, shall be by remote appearance.
2. For the proceeding, the Court intends to use the Zoom platform. Zoom is a remote video conference platform, which is available by downloading the free app on any device. A computer (or tablet or mobile device) with a webcam and a microphone is necessary to participate via Zoom.
3. At least 48 hours in advance of the hearing, all counsel and all unrepresented persons in this case shall email the Court at [spapineau@Laportecounty.org](mailto:spapineau@Laportecounty.org) to provide the Court with the email address the Court may use to send an invitation for the Zoom remote appearance.
4. A party’s failure to make the arrangements as stated above in paragraph 3 shall result in the Court conducting the proceeding without the participation of the party, and may result in default, dismissal, or other such adverse consequences for that party.

5. If there is more than a ten (10) minute delay in receiving the contact from the Court at the time of the hearing, the parties must then immediately call the Court at (219) 874-5611 ext. 7712.
6. The parties must label and email, e-file, or mail any proposed evidence, exhibits, or documents for use at the hearing. Those documents must be received by the Court at least two (2) days before the hearing. The email address for the Court in this matter is: spapineau@Laportecounty.org The mailing address is: 300 Washington St., Suite 200, Michigan City, IN 46360. All documents sent to the Court must contain the correct cause number. The parties must also send to the other parties (by mail or email) copies of all documents submitted to the Court. This exchange must be done at the same time the documents are sent to the Court.
7. If a party has any witnesses for the proceeding, the witnesses must be available to participate in the proceeding, either by separate invitation (and timely notice to the Court as directed above at paragraph 3) or by being with that party at the time of the proceeding in order for them to testify. The parties may also agree to a different form of witness participation.
8. If a party is ill or is unable to obtain an essential witness or witnesses due to the COVID-19 emergency, and desires the proceeding be continued for that reason, that party must file a motion to continue the proceeding as soon as the party learns of the reason to continue the proceeding.
9. **Rule 2.17 of the Indiana Judicial Conduct, entitled, "Prohibiting Broadcasting of Proceedings," provides that judges must prohibit the recording of Court proceedings. Accordingly, everyone who in any way participates in, sees, or hears the Court proceeding is now Ordered that they shall not record the proceedings in any manner. Violations of this rule and Order shall be punished by Contempt of Court.**

SO ORDERED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

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MICHAEL S. BERGERSON, Judge  
LaPorte Superior Court 1