

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ**

IN RE MANDATING REMOTE COURT)	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
APPEARANCES)	
)	No. 2020-026
)	

Due to the ongoing rapid spread of COVID-19 in Santa Cruz County and pursuant to the authority vested in the undersigned by Administrative Order 2020-197 of the Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court to conduct business in a manner that reduces the risks associated with COVID-19,

IT IS ORDERED that until further notice all newly-scheduled hearings in the Santa Cruz County Superior and Justice Courts shall be conducted with telephonic or remote platform appearances of all counsel, parties and witnesses.

Judicial officers may change previously set hearings from in person to remote or telephonic, at the judge’s discretion. Judicial officers are encouraged to allow remote appearances for hearings previously as for in-person proceedings.

The court’s assigned judicial assistant will provide all counsel (or self-represented persons) with conference call contact information for each scheduled court session prior to the scheduled hearing. Counsel for each party is required to relay the conference call information to his/her client in advance of the hearing and is required to instruct his/her client of the requirement to call in for the hearing at the scheduled time.

Counsel are responsible for notifying the court’s judicial assistant in advance of a hearing

for a client or witness who does not have the means to use telephonic communication, and to obtain an exception from this order for that client.

Counsel are required to notify the court's judicial assistant in advance of a hearing of a client or witness who will need an interpreter.

This order does not apply to the requirement that out of custody defendants appear for sentencings. Unless otherwise excused in advance by the court, all defendants are required to be present for sentencings. Counsel may appear telephonically, although personal appearances by counsel at sentencings is encouraged.

As used in this order "Counsel" includes attorneys with any prosecuting office.

A defendant or party's failure to appear remotely without good cause will be evaluated and treated the same as if a defendant failed to appear in person without good cause.

The Clerk of the Court is authorized to have deputy clerks appear at court hearings remotely whenever possible.

This order is effective December 11th, 2020, and remains in effect until further notice.

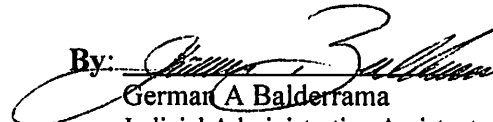
DATED this 11th day of December, 2020.



THOMAS FINK
Presiding Superior Court Judge

Original To: Juan Pablo Guzman, Clerk of the Superior Court

Copy To: Honorable Anna M. Montoya, Division Two
Honorable Emilio Velasquez, Justice of the Peace
Honorable Denneen Peterson, Judge Pro Temp
Honorable Sheila Dagucon, Judge Pro Temp
Honorable Vanessa Cartwright, Nogales Municipal Court Judge
Honorable Deirdre Eshleman, Judge Pro Temp
Jennifer St. John, Santa Cruz County Manager
Primitivo Romero III, Court Administrator
George Silva, County Attorney
Luis Fimbres, Chief Probation Officer

By: 
German A Balderrama
Judicial Administrative Assistant