

PART 22 – Virtual Operations re: Corona Virus

Judge Ruiz and the Part 22 Staff send their best regards to the Bronx, attorneys, and their families during these terrible and difficult times.

In compliance with the recent directives of Chief Judge Janet DiFiore and Chief Administrative Judge Lawrence K. Marks, non-essential trial court conferences and other proceedings, including settlement conferences, shall occur on a remote/virtual basis effective April 13, 2020. Part 22 will join its sister Parts to schedule and conference matters identified by the Administrative Judge as having the potential to settle.

In keeping with this directive, attorneys with cases in Part 22, who seek to file stipulations of settlements or who would like to arrange a settlement or ADR conference (on consent of all parties) to contact my court attorney, Nathaniel Chiaravalloti (nchiaravalloti@nycourts.gov). Correspondence to the Court is to include the case name, index number, names and contact information of the attorneys, and a brief summary of the request. In response, the Court will review the request and, where appropriate, schedule a remote/virtual conference via Skype Business or telephone. The Court's response will include instructions and/or a date to Skype or Call. **Please be mindful that your adversary may not be equipped to conference at this time because we are all dealing with changes and challenges to our personal and work lives. The Court will ONLY entertain requests made on consent of all parties.**

Please note that NO NEW nonessential matters may be filed until further notice; nor may additional papers be filed by parties in pending nonessential matters. The Court shall file such orders in essential and nonessential matters as it deems appropriate.

If you have an application that you believe essential, i.e., applications for orders of protection, mental hygiene applications, or temporary restraining orders you must contact the Administrative Judges chambers," not the IAS Justice. **None of the justices' chambers are staffed at this time.** You can contact the Administrative Offices at 718-618-3800.

The Court asks for your patience as we transition to virtual operations during these unprecedented times. There is no doubt that there will be challenges as we begin to implement this new phase in our professional lives. However, the Court is confident that together, we can work through these difficult times.

Judge Ruiz and her Part 22 staff thank you for your anticipated cooperation and wish the best for you and your families.