

**Electronically Filed
FIRST CIRCUIT
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SP. No. 1CSP-20-0000082

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

STATE OF HAWAI'I

In the Matter of the) SP. No. 1CSP-20-0000082
) (Special Proceeding)
)
CIVIL CIRCUIT COURT DIVISIONS OF) CIVIL CIRCUIT COURT
THE FIRST CIRCUIT'S RESPONSE TO) OPERATIONAL ORDER #1
COVID-19 OUTBREAK) REGARDING OPERATIONS IN THE
) CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST
) CIRCUIT; [FORM] NOTICE OF
) REMOTE HEARING
)
)
)

CIVIL CIRCUIT COURT OPERATIONAL ORDER #1 REGARDING OPERATIONS IN
CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

This order pertains to all civil proceedings pending in the Civil Division, Circuit Court of the First Circuit, except for probate court matters and certain foreclosure proceedings.¹

Despite the relaxation of COVID-related restrictions through the State of Hawai'i, the First Circuit Court of the State of Hawai'i will continue to maintain certain mandates regarding our Court operations. The current volume of positive COVID-19 cases, the limited spacing in the Civil

¹ See Probate Operational Order #1 Regarding the Probate Calendar of the First Circuit Court and Foreclosure Operational Order #1 filed in the Circuit Court of the First Circuit.

Divisions' First Circuit Court facilities, the high transmissibility of the Omicron variant, and the likelihood of new variants were considered in this latest Order.

The following mandates will remain in place to protect the health and safety of First Circuit Court employees and all court participants. This Order is made pursuant to the Order of Chief Justice Mark E. Recktenwald in SCMF No. 20-0000152, In re the Judiciary's Response to the COVID-19 Outbreak, and with authority as Chief Judge of the First Circuit Court.

In general this Order outlines basic directions about entry into the courthouse, and which matters are to be heard with the in-person presence of the parties and/or their respective attorneys.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. The Thirteenth Amended Emergency Order #3 Regarding Circuit Court of the First Circuit, Civil Matters, filed on December 27, 2021 is rescinded.

2. Civil jury trials, bench trials, hearings, and conferences may be conducted in person, with all court participants and members of the public adhering to the orders and requirements set forth in General Order #1 Regarding All Trial Courts of the First Circuit of the State of Hawai'i filed under SP. No. 1CSP-20-0000082 on March 21, 2022, including the requirement to maintain at least 6 feet of physical distance from other individuals and to wear face masks.

3. As long as court participants are required to maintain physical distancing in courtrooms in the First Circuit, civil judges may, in their discretion, continue to conduct bench trials, hearings, and conferences remotely via Zoom.

4. All hearing motions conducted via Zoom video conferencing shall include a Notice of Remote Hearing in a form that substantially complies with the form attached to this Order.

5. Zoom Meeting ID's for civil division judges are as follows:

4th Division Hon. John M. Tonaki **808 538 5053**
5th Division Hon. Jeannette H. Castagnetti **808 539 4025**
6th Division Hon. Jeffrey P. Crabtree **466 798 4465**
7th Division Hon. Dean E. Ochiai **895 888 6479**
9th Division Hon. Lisa W. Cataldo **808 538 5119**
10th Division Hon. James H. Ashford **808 539 4012**
14th Division Hon. Gary W.B. Chang **808 539 4084**
21st Division Hon. James. C. McWhinnie **808 539 1187**

6. Courtesy copies of any filed motion, response to a motion, or other document pertaining to a motion under RCCH 7.2(g)(6) will not be required to be delivered to the assigned judge’s chambers, unless specifically ordered by the presiding judge.

7. This Order may be modified as circumstances warrant. Absent further action, the effective date of this Order shall be Monday, March 28, 2022 and the Order shall remain in effect until further order of the Court.

It is so Ordered.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawai‘i, March 21, 2022.

/s/ R. Mark Browning



Hon. R. Mark Browning, Chief Judge
First Circuit Court, State of Hawai‘i

SP. No. 1CSP-20-0000082; In the Matter of the Civil Circuit Court Divisions of the First Circuit’s Response to the COVID-19 Outbreak; Civil Circuit Court Operational Order #1 Regarding Operations in the Circuit Court of the First Circuit.