

NOTICE TO THE BAR

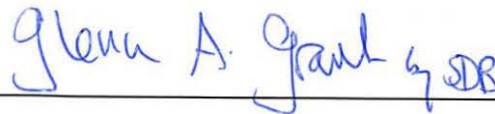
COVID-19 – RECORDS OF REMOTE COURT PROCEEDINGS – AUDIO RECORDS AVAILABLE AS ELECTRONIC FILES OR ON CD

[Directive #12-20](#) ("Principles and Protocols for Virtual Court Operations During the COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic – (1) Methods of Conducting Remote Court Events; (2) Access to the Public Record; and (3) Posting of Events Guidance") implements the Supreme Court's [April 20, 2020 Order](#) on remote proceedings, including by establishing a temporary process for requesting records of remote court proceedings. Effective immediately, we are ending the interim availability of video recordings. Individuals still may request and obtain official audio recordings of remote court events, which is available as an electronic file or burned on a CD.

Requests to observe court events that are not livestreamed also may be submitted to the judge handling the event, either by email or by phone. Requests will be granted on the condition that the court event must not be recorded or broadcast absent specific written permission from the Assignment Judge or designee, consistent with the [Supreme Court Guidelines on Media Access and Electronic Devices in the Courts \(Directive #11-20\)](#).

The attached June 12, 2020 **Addendum to Directive #12-20** ("Updated Process and Form for Requesting Audio Records of Remote Court Events During COVID-19") memorializes this change in the process for obtaining records of court events conducted in remote format. The Addendum promulgates a new Request for Audio Records of Remote Court Proceedings During COVID-19 form that replaces the version promulgated on April 28, 2020.

Questions on this notice (which supersedes the [April 28, 2020 notice](#) on this topic) should be directed to the Office of the Administrative Director of the Courts.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Glenn A. Grant" followed by a stylized monogram "GAB". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Hon. Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.
Acting Administrative Director of the Courts

Dated: June 12, 2020

GLENN A. GRANT, J.A.D.
Acting Administrative Director of the Courts

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Addendum to Directive #12-20

[Questions or comments may be directed to the Office of the Administrative Director at (609) 376-3000]

TO: Assignment Judges
Presiding Judges – All Divisions

FROM: Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D. *JAG by SDP*

SUBJ: Updated Process and Form for Requesting Audio Records of Remote Court Events During COVID-19

DATE: June 12, 2020

The Supreme Court by Order dated April 20, 2020 reinforced our commitment to continuing the operations of the courts during the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic. Directive #12-20 implemented the April 20, 2020 Order by establishing guiding principles for when and how remote court events will be conducted, including which events will by default be livestreamed and which will require individualized permission for real-time participation or viewing. Directive #12-20 also established procedures for requesting access to observe a remote court proceeding that is not livestreamed and obtaining records of such remote proceedings.

The New Jersey courts are committed to transparency and public access to official court records. As an interim measure, Directive #12-20 temporarily expanded that preexisting level of access by providing that unofficial video records also could be obtained for court events conducted using Zoom. This addendum to Directive #12-20 ends that interim process as to video records while maintaining the ability for individuals to request and obtain copies of official audio records of remote court proceedings, which are available as an electronic file or on a CD.

Accordingly, this addendum also promulgates a revised form for requesting official audio records of remote court proceedings. The attached Request for Audio Records of Remote Court Proceedings During COVID-19 Crisis form (CN 12605) should be used to request official audio records of court events that are not closed.

Questions on this addendum may be directed to the Office of the Administrative Director of the Courts at (609) 376-3000.

Attachment (Revised CN 12605)

cc: Chief Justice Stuart Rabner
Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal
Public Defender Joseph E. Krakora
Civil Division Judges
Criminal Division Judges
Family Division Judges
Municipal Court Judges
Steven D. Bonville, Chief of Staff

AOC Directors and Assistant Directors
Clerks of Courts
Trial Court Administrators
Special Assistants to the Administrative Director
Civil Division Managers
Criminal Division Managers
Family Division Managers
Municipal Division Managers



New Jersey Judiciary

Request for Audio Records of Remote Proceedings During COVID-19 Crisis

**DISCLAIMER: Recordings may NOT be used to produce official transcripts.
They are for reference only.**

1. Fill out all the information on this form. Incomplete or inaccurate case information may delay your request. For help with case information, please contact the court office. Once completed, email the form to the local transcript office.
2. Select the type of recording.
 - ☐ **Audio file – no CD.** You will receive an email with a password to listen to an audio recording of the court event. No charge.
 - ☐ **Audio file on CD.** There is a \$10.00 fee for audio files on CD. Contact the county transcript office at the email below if you wish to request and pay for an audio CD.

Requesting Party

Name		Date
Address: Street		
City	State	Zip Code
Email Address		
Requestor's Connection to the Case		
☐ Plaintiff ☐ Defendant ☐ Plaintiff's Attorney ☐ Defendant's Attorney ☐ Victim ☐ Other _____		

Case Information

Case Name (Plaintiff v. Defendant)		Trial Court Docket Number / Indictment Number
Date(s) of Proceeding	Type of Proceeding (e.g. trial, sentencing, motion, etc.)	Name of Judge

Any special instructions

Transcript Office

Select County: _____ Transcript Office Email: _____

For Court Staff Use Only

Processed By: _____ Date: _____
Notes: _____