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To: Comments Mailbox
Cc: Jerry Eisdorfer; Allen Eisdorfer; EEE - Eisdorfer Eisdorfer Eisdorfer LLC
Subject: [External]Comments On Proposal for Virtual Civil Jury Trials
Attachments: Comments to Covid.docx

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

Your Honor,

Attached are my comments concerning COVID-19 Virtual Civil Jury Trials

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Eisdorfer /s/
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Comments to Covid-19 Virtual Civil Jury Trials

1. Under Recommendations section, item 1a: virtual civil jury trials should begin with cases involving a single plaintiff, a single defendant, NO ISSUE OF LIABILITY, and a modest number of live witnesses.

What was added is underlined

2. Under Recommendations section, item 1c: Cases involving physical objects that need to be presented for a virtual jury trial should use an “ELMO”

What is discussed is the use of an ELMO as technology that can take a 3D or physical object and project on a screen (i.e., replaces overhead projector using acetate sheets)

ELMO document camera for teachers



3. New Item: A selected jury may be used in more than one civil jury trial. Issue: What is the penalty, if any, for those defendants making a substantial change in the amount offered after a jury is selected (i.e., pre-pandemic, post-jury selection offers or post-opening offers occurred and should be considered in the amount of time invested/wasted in virtual jury selection).
Can a selected jury be used on the “next” civil trial where a pool of attorneys select a jury (i.e., at most 4 attorneys representing 2 plaintiff and 2 defendants for 2 cases)?
4. Create a “Mock Trial” video from beginning to end for the attorney and another for the jury. For the judge/attorney what to do for certain events, i.e., school closures, a juror covid response/exposure, attempts to talk over each other during objections (i.e., limit to one talking with raising a hand for only the judge to view). For the jury, how to act and what to expect as the events occur. In this latter case, I believe polling municipal court judges handling video teleconferencing would be very enlightening.

We wish all the best health for those who spent the time and effort to allow our judicial system to proceed forward.

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