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PHIL MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA OLIVER
Lt. Governor

State of New Jersey
Office of the Public Defender
Drug Court Unit/ISP Unit
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JOSEPH E. KRAKORA
Public Defender

August 16, 2021

Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.
Acting Administrative Director of the Courts
Hughes Justice Complex
P.O. Box 037
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0037

Re: **Comments on the Future of Court
Operations**

Dear Judge Grant:

These comments relate to the July 16, 2021, Notice to the Bar regarding the future of remote proceedings in court operations. Specifically, section 6b of the Notice indicates that most proceedings involving state prisoners shall be conducted remotely, which covers ISP hearings. At this time, the Office of the Public Defender has no objection to ISP hearings being conducted remotely. However, as we collect more data and gain more experience with remote proceedings in ISP, we ask that that we be allowed to revisit this issue with the ISP Program Director, if needed.

Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Stephen P. Hunter

Stephen P. Hunter
ISP Unit Deputy
Drug Court Director
Deputy Public Defender