



District of Columbia Court of Appeals In-Person Oral Arguments Information Sheet

Effective September 2022, the court will resume holding oral arguments **in person**. At any time, however, the court may elect to conduct an oral argument entirely remotely using the Zoom Government platform. In accordance with the court's August 4, 2022, operations order, unless otherwise prohibited and regardless of location, all oral arguments will continue to be livestreamed on the [DC Court of Appeals YouTube channel](#) to provide public access. A link to any upcoming livestreamed oral argument will be available on the court's website (<https://www.dccourts.gov/court-of-appeals/oral-arguments>). Parties may request to appear remotely; for details, please see the court's website ([https://www.dccourts.gov/sites/default/files/COA-efiling-cases-online-PDFs/Hybrid Oral Argument Information Sheet.pdf](https://www.dccourts.gov/sites/default/files/COA-efiling-cases-online-PDFs/Hybrid%20Oral%20Argument%20Information%20Sheet.pdf)).

Oral arguments are held in the main courtroom on the second floor of the courthouse, except that arguments before the entire court sitting *en banc* are held in the Ceremonial Courtroom on the lower level.

Attendees, whether a party or spectator, must complete a temperature check before entering the courthouse.

Disinfecting wipes will be available at the attorney's tables. Details on health and safety procedures are available at <https://www.dccourts.gov/stepstokeepyousafe>.

Masking protocols: The District of Columbia Court of Appeals intends to conduct in-person and hybrid oral arguments pursuant to the protocols set forth below.

- In order to aid the judges and participants in identifying, hearing, and understanding one another, arguing counsel or parties without attorneys may remove their masks when at the podium. Judges may also elect to remove their masks for these reasons.
- Arguing counsel or parties without attorneys who would like to speak without wearing a mask must, within twenty-four hours of oral argument, test negative for COVID-19 and self-certify that fact to the Clerk's Office via email at efilehelp@dcappeals.gov. A COVID-19 rapid test is acceptable.
- A judge or arguing counsel or party without an attorney may choose to wear a mask for any reason.
- Other than arguing counsel and parties without attorneys and judges hearing argument, everyone in the courtroom must wear a mask that covers the person's mouth and nose ([details online](#)). If a person does not have a mask, one will be provided for them.
- Alternatively, persons who wish to observe oral arguments but prefer not to wear a mask are reminded that oral arguments will continue to be livestreamed on the [DC Court of Appeals YouTube channel](#).