

**CRIMINAL PRETRIAL HEARINGS USING TWO-WAY LIVE VIDEO
TECHNOLOGY – PROTOCOL - 11/25/20**

1. Two-way live video remote proceedings are useful and effective in protecting the well-being of those who have matters before the Circuit Court for Baltimore City while protecting the essence of a defendant's right to confront witnesses absent a physical face-to-face confrontation. The reliability of the testimony is assured given the quality of the video technology now in existence.
2. In an effort to meet the public policy requirements of protecting the health and safety of the public and court employees, to address wellness concerns raised by members of the Bar, and to help resolve matters efficiently and fairly, criminal pretrial hearings shall be held remotely using two-way live video technology.
3. The assigned judge will send an invite for 2:00 p.m. to the Assistant State's Attorney, defense counsel, courtroom clerk, and the applicable institution to participate in the hearing.
4. The parties will send the meeting identification number and the password to their witnesses. Witnesses shall participate using both audio and video.
5. The parties shall present to each other an exhibit and witness list within two weeks of the hearing date.¹
6. Parties shall email the assigned judge an exhibit and witness list and exhibits to be placed in the court file at least two weeks prior to the hearing.²
7. After the hearing is concluded, the assigned judge shall give exhibits admitted into evidence to the courtroom clerk to be placed in the court file.
8. Body-worn camera exhibits will be played for all participants during the hearing, using the Zoom for Government shared document feature.
9. On the day of the hearing, if the assigned judge does not rule on the motion, the judge must issue a written order.
10. If the motion is denied, counsel must dial in the following business day to Postponement Court to have a new trial date scheduled.

cc: Judges of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City
Criminal Manual
Parole and Probation
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Clerk's Office
Criminal Assignment
State's Attorney's Office
Office of the Attorney General
Office of the Public Defender
Private Defense Bar

¹ The two week requirement for providing exhibits to the other party does not apply for the motions hearing scheduled for December 1, 2020. Counsel should provide the exhibits no later than November 30, 2020.

² The two week requirement for providing exhibits to the judge does not apply for the motions hearing scheduled for December 1, 2020. Counsel should provide the exhibits no later than November 30, 2020.