

United States Court of Appeals

For the Seventh Circuit

Chicago, Illinois 60604

General Order 21-010

ORDER Regarding Resumption of In-Person Oral Argument

*** This Order Supersedes General Order 21-007 ***

In response to current data regarding COVID-19 infection rates, and in accordance with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, state and local public-health authorities, the *Federal Judiciary COVID-19 Recovery Guidelines*, and the United States Courts *Safe Return to the Workplace Handbook*,

It is hereby ORDERED that:

This order supersedes General Order 21-007, entered on July 22, 2021.

The court will resume in-person oral argument effective October 4, 2021, *subject to* the qualifying provisions of General Orders 21-008 and 21-009, also issued today, and as specified below. The court will continue to livestream the audio of oral argument on its YouTube channel or another livestreaming service. Please see the court's website for information about the livestreaming service and policies regarding resumption of in-person oral argument.

Option to Present Argument Telephonically or by Video Communications: The assigned panel may, in its discretion, permit counsel to present oral argument telephonically or by a video-communications platform approved by the court. Not later than 14 days before the argument date, and after conferring with opposing counsel, a party may file a motion to present oral argument telephonically or by video communications. The motion shall: (1) state the reason for the request; (2) state whether the request is opposed or unopposed; and (3) identify which counsel wish to appear remotely.

Waiver of Oral Argument: Not later than 14 days before the argument date, counsel may file a motion under Circuit Rule 34(e) to waive oral argument if the appeal can be resolved based on the briefs and record and the decisional process would not be significantly aided by oral argument. *See* FED. R. APP. P. 34(a). Counsel must first confer with opposing counsel before seeking a waiver of oral argument, and the motion must state whether the request is opposed or unopposed. The court prefers joint motions.

For the Court:



Diane S. Sykes, Chief Judge

Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this 13th day of August, 2021.