



OKLAHOMA WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

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Chairman Mark Liotta · Commissioner Jordan Russell · Commissioner Megan Tilly

Executive Director Hopper Smith

May 18, 2020

Interim Guidance for Commission Appellate Proceedings

On April 24, 2020, Oklahoma began implementing the [Open Up & Recover Safely \(OURS\) Plan](#), a three-phased approach to safely reopen Oklahoma's economy. Based on current scientific modeling, Oklahoma is expected to enter Phase 2 on May 15, 2020. In accordance with guidance from the [Oklahoma Department of Health](#) and the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#), the Commission plans to resume in-person appellate proceedings on May 22, 2020.

In order to protect the health and safety of our employees and those appearing for appellate proceedings, the Commission will implement the following safety procedures:

- Hand sanitizer will be strategically placed in communal spaces and hearing rooms
- Hearing rooms and high-touch surfaces will be sanitized between every proceeding
- Tissues and no-touch receptacles will be available
- No more than ten people, including Commission employees, will be allowed in the hearing room at a time. In compliance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, the public will be able to attend the meeting telephonically or virtually via Zoom.

The Commission asks all attorneys appearing for appellate proceedings to respect each other and Commission staff by adhering to the following guidelines:

- Please wear a mask or [cloth-face covering](#) while inside the Commission
- Follow [social distancing guidelines](#) by maintaining a physical distance of at least 6 feet from others
- Attorneys are encouraged to wait in their vehicles until the assigned hearing time. Upon entering the building, attorneys may remain in the first-floor waiting area until their case is called.
- Avoid congregating in communal areas and minimize face-to-face communication to the extent possible
- Follow CDC guidelines for [hand-washing](#) and follow [coughing and sneezing etiquette](#)
- If an attorney has recently exhibited [symptoms of COVID-19](#) or has recently come into contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, please contact Commission Appellate Counsel at lindsey.christopher@wcc.ok.gov to make arrangements to continue the case.

Under Phase 2 of the OURS plan, it is recommended that [high-risk individuals](#) continue to shelter-at-home. If you have questions or concerns regarding Commission appellate proceedings or if you are a high-risk individual seeking accommodation, please contact Commission Appellate Counsel at lindsey.christopher@wcc.ok.gov.