



UPDATED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE STATE OF UTAH

The World Health Organization has declared the COVID-19 outbreak to be a pandemic. Governor Herbert has declared a state of emergency. To protect the public and all hearing participants it has become necessary for the Department of Commerce to issue this Administrative Order.

Hearings before the Department of Commerce and its various Divisions shall be conducted electronically as provided in Utah Admin. Code R151-4-707 (by telephone, or by other audio or video conferencing technology) whenever possible. Consent of the parties, or their counsel, is not required for hearings to be conducted remotely. If the presiding officer determines that a live hearing is necessary because of the nature of the evidence or inquiry, the hearing may be held under the following conditions:


1. All visitors to the Heber M. Wells Building must wear face coverings while in the building, including the hearing room. Department of Commerce employees will wear face coverings while in the hearing room.
2. Individuals in a hearing room must maintain a distance of at least 6 feet apart from each other.
3. Any individual involved in the hearing, including counsel and parties, may request to attend the hearing remotely rather than in-person.

4. People not directly involved in the hearing are discouraged from attending. No more than 6 people will be allowed in the hearing room at any given time. Some attendees may be required to listen to the proceedings electronically from outside the hearing room.
5. Individuals may not enter the Heber M. Wells Building or the hearing room if they:
 - a. Are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19;
 - b. Have been exposed to someone diagnosed with COVID-19 within 14 days before the hearing;
 - c. Have been tested for COVID-19, and are awaiting those test results.
6. Preference will be given to allowing the presentation of witnesses through remote means.
7. The presiding officer has authority to issue orders regarding the sharing of exhibits prior to a hearing and the presentation of exhibits during a hearing, to accommodate the proceeding.

This Administrative Order shall not alter or otherwise affect any deadlines established in other agency proceedings, including agency review.

This Administrative Order may be amended at any time to respond to changed conditions.

Dated this 29th day of June, 2020.


Chris Parker, Executive Director
Utah Department of Commerce