



Juvenile, CHIPS and TPR Proceedings through July 31, 2020.

The Racine County Judges have begun a gradual return to limited in-court appearances. Branch 6 will institute the following procedures.

JUVENILE CASES

- A. Appearances by telephone conference will continue for status conferences, motions, restitution and competency reviews.
- B. In-court appearances will be required for initial appearances, plea/disposition, pre-trials, trials and Waiver hearings.
- C. In-custody juveniles will appear by video and all other participants will appear by telephone.

CHIPS CASES

- A. Temporary physical custody hearings will be by telephone unless a party or an attorney requests a personal appearance. The Court will coordinate with the Sheriff's Department as to whether an in-custody parent can appear in person.
- B. Appearances by telephone conference will continue for initial appearances, status conferences, motions and permanency plans.
- C. In-court appearances will be required for plea/disposition, pre-trial and trial.
- D. Trials will be scheduled after August 1, 2020.

TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

- A. In-court appearances will be required for all TPR proceedings. The parties may request a telephone appearance if a Stipulation or group e-mail from all counsel (including the GAL) is filed with the clerk consenting to a telephone conference and waiving applicable time limits.
- B. TPR jury trials are currently scheduled into October 2020.
- C. In-custody appearances and transports are subject to institution and Sheriff's Department procedures.

PROCEDURE

It is the responsibility of each attorney to provide Carrie Ann appropriate telephone numbers for counsel and their client. If a party is unrepresented, HSD is requested to provide Carrie Ann with the last known telephone contact. The e-mail for Carrie Ann is Carrie.Ray@wicourts.gov.

Each telephone participant must have a clear signal. Background noise (dog barking, office noise, standing outside in wind or traffic, etc.) must be eliminated or the party will be disconnected.

The Wisconsin Supreme Court has mandated that participants wear face coverings in the Courtroom. Face coverings are available at the Courtroom entrance if needed.

If these guidelines present unsolvable problems, please contact co-counsel to discuss a solution. The court will be flexible to constitutionally advance our calendar.

Dated this 17th day of June, 2020.