

Five Supreme Court Orders Adjust Court Operations

- **Order in case 20S-MS-236** suspends language that might prohibit notaries, court reporters, and others from administering oaths to witnesses by remote video. [Open order >>](#)
- **Order in case 20S-MS-237** identifies conditions under which wills and other estate-planning documents may be signed by witnesses and testators remotely. [Open order >>](#)
- **Order in case 20S-MS-238** provides direction on the impact of emergency orders on critical family law matters like child support, child custody, and parenting time. [Open order >>](#)
- **Order in case 20S-MS-239** relaxes the maximum number of allowed online hours for attorney and judicial officer education, which means more professional requirements can be met through distance education rather than in-person learning. [Open order >>](#)
- **Order in case 20S-MS-240** extends the deadline for filing an application to take the July 2020 bar exam. [Open order >>](#)

Chief Justice Loretta Rush explained, “We’re hearing from lawyers, judges, litigants, and law students that the legal system must be more flexible in this trying time. The Supreme Court is ordering rule changes to ensure certain legal services can be provided with remote capabilities and extending the bar exam application deadline.”

Chief Administrative Officer Justin Forkner expressed gratitude to a number of leaders and organizations that helped bring the issues to the Court, “The collaborative nature of Indiana’s government leaders—especially the Governor’s office—and input from the Indiana State Bar Association has allowed the Court to identify and address legal issues during this emergency with greater efficiency.”

A [website with guidance to courts and messages from the Court](#) provides details on the Judicial Branch’s response to COVID-19.

Additionally, the Supreme Court Office of Judicial Administration issued guidance for adjustments to community supervision agencies for individuals under problem-solving court, court alcohol and drug problem program, pretrial, community corrections, and probation supervision. Courts and community supervision agencies are encouraged to identify new and creative ways to supervise individuals while practicing social distancing. [Click here to review the guidance.](#)

Business Resources in Response to Federal Stimulus Bill

Our partners at the American Bar Association continue to research the federal stimulus bill passed Friday by the House of Representatives. We will be sure to share their findings as soon as we can. In the meantime, however, here are some resources for business owners wondering what options they may have under the new legislation. The following are from Sen. Mike Braun’s office. Thanks to our partners at the Indiana Society of Association Executives for sharing.

For business owners (including solo practitioners) and non-profit administrators

- [COVID-19 Affected Business and Employee Resource Guide](#)
- [Paycheck Protection Program](#)
- [Support for Non-Profit Organization](#)

For individuals and solo practitioners

- [Direct Support Payments to Americans](#)

For students and those with student loan debt

- [Education-Related Provisions](#)
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ISBA Conversations with Thought Leaders

Join in on these free conversations for all legal professionals.

- **Remote and Electronic Notarization** (April 1) Max capacity reached; On-demand coming soon
- **Parenting Time during Shelter in Place** (April 2) [Register >>](#)
- **Resiliency in Uncertain Times (April 6)** [Register >>](#)
- **Cyber Security and Remote Work** [Watch On-demand >>](#)
- **Business Interruption Coverage** [Watch On-demand >>](#)
- **Ethics and Legal Malpractice** [Watch On-demand >>](#)

PLUS: New free on-demand resource: [Working It from Home](#)

ISBA LPM Consultant Tara Puckey discusses challenges, opportunities and tips for the "new normal" of working from home.