

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Dutchess County Surrogate's Court
Date: February 23, 2022
Re: Mandatory In-Person Proceedings
Citation Return Dates

Pursuant to the Revised Operating Protocols and Procedures for the Ninth Judicial District (dated February 18, 2022), personal appearances are mandatory on the return date of any citation that has been issued by the Surrogate's Court.

This Revised Protocol and Procedure goes into effect district-wide on February 25, 2022.

In Dutchess County Surrogate's Court, citations are typically made returnable on Thursdays. The Revised Protocol and Procedure will not have any impact on citations that are returnable this Thursday, February 24, 2022. Those proceedings will be conducted virtually as scheduled.

The Revised Protocol and Procedure will have its first impact on Dutchess County Surrogate's Court on Thursday, March 3, 2022.

On March 3, and on all future citation return dates, personal appearances will be mandatory. All Microsoft Teams invitations that were issued for those citation return dates will be removed.

Any request for permission to appear virtually on a citation return date must be submitted in writing at least one-week prior to the scheduled appearance. Requests to appear virtually will only be granted for good cause shown, and are subject to review by the Administrative Judge.

Please note that this mandatory in-person appearance protocol only applies to citation return dates. Other matters on the Dutchess County Surrogate Court's Thursday calendar will continue to be conducted virtually, unless otherwise directed by the Court. The calendar start times will also continue to be staggered in 15-minute increments until further notice.