

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND**

IN RE: LOCAL RULES

Misc. 71-7163

**GENERAL ORDER**  
**REGARDING HEARINGS BY VIDEOCONFERENCE**

Pursuant to LR Gen 113(d), Fed. R. Civ. P. 83(a)(1), and 28 U.S.C. §2071(e), the Court hereby amends LR Gen 112(a) and adds a new rule, LR Cv 78, as follows:

**LR Gen 112 USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

- (a) **Photographing, Recording, and Broadcasting.** Except to the extent expressly authorized by the Court, no person shall photograph, record, broadcast, or otherwise transmit any proceeding, event, or activity held in the Courthouse or portion of the John O. Pastore Building occupied by the Court. The Court may permit:
1. photographing, recording, or broadcasting of ceremonial proceedings upon such terms and conditions as the Court may specify;
  2. transmission of video and audio of proceedings by the Clerk's Office in civil cases at the presiding judge's discretion as outlined in LR Cv 78, and is not considered prohibited broadcasting.

**LR Cv 78 HEARINGS BY VIDEOCONFERENCE**

At the discretion of the presiding judge, video conferencing may be used to conduct proceedings in civil cases. If a video conference proceeding is authorized by the presiding judge, and the proceeding would otherwise be open to the public, the Clerk's Office shall make video and audio of the proceeding available as directed by the judge.

The Court will take steps to formally modify LR Gen 112 and LR Cv 78 during the next local rules review cycle.

By the Court:

Date: March 14, 2022

/s/ John J. McConnell, Jr. Chief Judge