

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW  
UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION COURT  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA**

**STANDING ORDER OF THE PHILADELPHIA IMMIGRATION COURT  
RELATING TO TELEPHONIC APPEARANCES AT HEARINGS**

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that, for the thirty (30) day period following the signing of this order, parties scheduled to appear for a master calendar, custody, or individual hearing before the Philadelphia Immigration Court may appear telephonically, without the filing of a motion for telephonic appearance. This permission is subject to the following caveats:

- 1) Any party, whether an attorney or a litigant, who wishes to appear telephonically does so with the understanding that any paper or electronic filings to be considered by the Court must be in the official record of proceeding at the time the hearing is scheduled to be held. No additional filings will be accepted at the hearing from a party not appearing in person, and the decision of the Court will be based on the documents in the record at the close of the hearing.
- 2) Any party appearing telephonically waives the right to object to admissibility of any document offered in Court on the sole basis that they are unable to examine the document.
- 3) If the Court is unable to reach a party by telephone for the hearing, the party will thereafter be required to appear in person at any rescheduled hearing.
- 4) The parties may offer testimony from witnesses appearing telephonically if the witness's contact information is provided to the Court prior to the hearing. Witnesses must be sequestered to the best of their ability when others are testifying. If a witness fails to appear, it is within the Court's discretion whether to proceed with or reschedule the hearing.

June 11, 2020  
Date

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Theresa H. Holmes-Simmons  
Assistant Chief Immigration Judge  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania