

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW
OMAHA IMMIGRATION COURT
OMAHA, NEBRASKA**

STANDING ORDER OF THE OMAHA IMMIGRATION COURT

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, the Omaha Immigration Court is implementing the following safety precautions:

IT IS ORDERED, effective immediately and continuing until further notice:

1. In-person appearances in the courtroom are limited to the following individuals: Respondent, Respondent's counsel, DHS counsel, Court interpreter, essential Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) staff, security personnel, and any other necessary individuals, as determined by the presiding judge. See ICPM § 4.9(a)(ii) (citing 8 C.F.R. § 1003.27(b)).
2. Video conferencing ("VTC") will be utilized to the greatest extent possible, and any necessary witnesses will be allowed to appear by telephone. See ICPM § 4.7(b).
3. Parties who would like to appear telephonically for a particular case should provide notice to the Court at the email address provided below, in advance of the hearing, and in accordance with the instructions which can be found at the link below. Parties should provide the best phone number at which to be reached.
4. Limited exceptions to the above orders may be accommodated on a case-by-case basis and must be requested by written motion prior to the day of the hearing.
5. Any individual that (a) is displaying symptoms consistent with COVID-19 exposure; (b) has been diagnosed with COVID-19; (c) is pending results of a COVID-19 diagnostic test; (d) has, within the past 14 days, had contact with anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19; (e) or has been asked to self-quarantine by local health authorities or a medical provider, shall notify the Court immediately by telephone or the e-mail address provided below and will not be allowed to appear in the Court. Individuals may be asked questions related to whether they have any of these symptoms and may be denied access to or asked to leave EOIR-controlled space, depending upon their responses. If any individual described in this paragraph is unable to attend an upcoming hearing at which his or her presence is required, he or she shall promptly notify the Court, in writing, to the Court's email filing mailbox at Omaha.Immigration.Court@usdoj.gov or in an emergency, by telephone to the Court. The Court may request appropriate medical documentation, as deemed necessary.
6. All persons scheduled to appear before the Omaha Immigration Court should allow additional time sufficient to clear security, check-in with court staff, and arrive in the appropriate courtroom by the scheduled hearing time.
7. All visitors to EOIR-controlled space are required to wear an appropriate face mask or cloth face covering which adequately covers the wearer's nose and mouth at all times. This requirement will not apply to children under two years of age and individuals with medical conditions that prevent them from wearing a face covering. Visitors without a face covering may be denied access to or asked to leave EOIR-controlled space.
8. All visitors to EOIR-controlled space are also required to observe any applicable social distancing guidelines to the maximum extent practicable, and comply with any applicable signs or instructions from EOIR personnel regarding behavior while in that space. Visitors who fail to observe such guidelines may be denied access to or asked to leave EOIR-controlled space.

The Executive Office for Immigration Review has established a temporary email account to facilitate electronic filings for all parties during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The email address for the Omaha Immigration Court can be found at the following address:

Omaha.Immigration.Court@usdoj.gov

Instructions for using this email account can be found at:

<https://www.justice.gov/eoir/filing-email>

Private attorneys must submit their request from an e-mail address that is on file with EOIR. DHS filings must be sent from a government email address. Practitioners are reminded that, as noted in Policy Memorandum PM 20-13 “*EOIR Practices Related to the COVID-19 Outbreak*” this e-mail address shall be deactivated on October 9, 2020, which is 60 days after the Court has resumed non-detained hearings.

The Court strongly encourages filings be made by First Class U.S. mail, express/overnight delivery service, or e-mail, consistent with the requirements set forth in this Standing Order.

Subject to the provisions of this Standing Order, all filings must otherwise comply with the provisions of the Immigration Court Practice Manual (ICPM), or as otherwise ordered by the presiding Immigration Judge.

This Standing Order supersedes the previous Standing Order, same subject, dated April 6, 2020. This Standing Order shall remain in full force and effect until and unless modified by any future order.

Nothing in this Standing Order should be interpreted to supplant an Immigration Judge’s authority to manage his or her cases.

Effective Date: July 24, 2020

Eric L. Dillow
Assistant Chief Immigration Judge