

## Connecticut Judicial Branch Law Libraries

## TIPS FOR THE SELF-REPRESENTED Virtual Proceedings

- If at all possible, consult with an attorney.
- \* You are required to follow the rules of court found in the Connecticut Practice Book at www.jud.ct.gov/pb.htm.
- \* Be patient, it requires time and effort to move forward with your case.
- \* Representing yourself involves costs. Budget for filing fees, marshal costs, parking and more. Fee waivers are available subject to court approval.
- Make and keep copies of all documents submitted to the court.
- \* Judges are not allowed to speak to you about your case. A judge will listen to your comments on a case only at a scheduled proceeding.
- \* It is your responsibility to check the status of your case regularly. The court will not do this for you. You can find the details of your case at <a href="https://www.jud.ct.gov/jud2.htm">www.jud.ct.gov/jud2.htm</a>.
- \* Courtesy goes a long way. The Judicial staff will do all they can to assist you in the process.

For more information, visit us online at: www.jud.ct.gov/lawlib/



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- Plan for your virtual proceeding well before it begins. You will need time to prepare and test your device, install software, and prepare a proper setting.
- Plan on being in the proceeding for an extended period of time. Be prepared for technical difficulties. The number and length of prior proceedings can delay the start of your proceeding.
- \* When in a virtual proceeding, be in a quite place, turn off any cell phones, televisions, and radios; do not eat, drink or chew gum; do not wear a hat (unless you wear it for religious reasons) or sunglasses.
- \* When in a virtual proceeding, remain quiet; speak only when it is your turn; address the judge as "Judge" or "Your Honor"; answer all questions clearly so they can be recorded in the court record; do not interrupt others when it is their turn to speak.
- Court is a formal setting; your dress and background should be respectful.
- \* Do not have others in the room with you unless they are needed for the proceeding. They can distract and disrupt the proceedings.

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