Colorado Supreme Court's Remote Oral Argument Policy

The Colorado Supreme Court strongly favors holding in-person oral argument at the Ralph L. Carr Colorado Judicial Center. However, the Court recognizes that there may be circumstances that justify allowing a party to appear remotely for oral argument. At this time, the Court lacks the technology to allow one party to appear in person and another to appear remotely; an argument must be held entirely in person or entirely remotely. Counsel may move for argument to be held remotely under the conditions set forth in this policy.

<u>Good Cause</u>. A motion for remote oral argument must be supported by good cause. Such a motion must set forth the specific circumstances that establish good cause. Concern about COVID-19 will not constitute good cause in the absence of specific individual or family circumstances.

<u>Conferral Requirement</u>. Before filing a motion for remote oral argument, the requesting counsel must confer with opposing counsel. The motion must document compliance with this conferral requirement and indicate whether the request is opposed or unopposed. Failure to comply with the conferral requirement or to state whether the motion is opposed or unopposed may result in the request being summarily denied. <u>Timeliness</u>. A motion to appear remotely for oral argument must be filed within 14 days of the order setting the date for oral argument.

<u>Response</u>. If a motion for remote oral argument is opposed, and if time permits, it will be trailed to allow a response to be filed within 7 days. Depending on the circumstances, the Court may need to resolve the motion before a response is filed.

<u>Court's Discretion</u>. All motions for remote oral argument, whether opposed or unopposed, will be granted or denied solely in the discretion of the Court. The Court retains discretion to sua sponte order that an oral argument be conducted remotely.

<u>Webex Platform</u>. If the Court grants a motion for remote oral argument, the argument will be held via Webex. Counsel appearing remotely for oral argument are responsible for installing Webex on their own devices, ensuring an adequate internet connection for both video and audio, and securing an appropriate location. Further, such counsel must review and adhere to the <u>WebEx Best Practices handout</u>.