

# Town of North Kingstown, Rhode Island

Probate Court 100 Fairway Dr. North Kingstown, RI 02852-5762

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Web: www.northkingstown.org

**APRIL 1, 2020** 

## TO ALL PROBATE PRACTITIONERS:

Subject to modifications noted herein, the North Kingstown Probate Court will continue to function during this time of the Coronavirus epidemic. Filings will continue to be accepted.

## Until further notice:

#### REGULARLY SCHEDULED COURT SESSIONS PROCEDURE:

The North Kingstown Probate Court will continue to conduct its regularly scheduled court sessions on the third Wednesday of each month <u>via teleconferencing only</u>. <u>Practitioners need not and should not appear at court</u>. The next regularly scheduled hearing date is Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

Please note: Practitioners are advised that teleconferencing of regularly scheduled probate court sessions is anticipated to extend at least through the June session. Please plan accordingly.

On the regularly scheduled hearing date, the Probate Court will be holding the court session using the Zoom app. All persons wishing to join the hearing must follow the instructions provided by the Probate Clerk. The Probate Clerk will send "Zoom" invites to all attorneys of record for cases requiring a hearing. The invite will include the link and phone numbers (if preferred) to join the Court session. The Petitioner or moving party shall provide this notice and the Join Zoom Meeting instructions to all parties entitled to notice of any hearing or proceeding, except in those matters to be heard on waiver.

Matters that are contested and require testimony or that otherwise cannot be resolved via teleconference will be continued to the subsequent regular session or later date as the interested parties may agree. Such agreements regarding rescheduling should be communicated to the Probate Clerk as early as possible.

#### **EMERGENCY SESSION PROCEDURE:**

The Court will continue to be available to hear matters of an emergency nature such as Petitions for Guardianship involving healthcare. Upon filing of all required documents, the attorney of record shall contact the Probate Clerk to request a special or emergency hearing date.

Any special or emergency session hearing shall then be conducted via teleconference in the manner provided above.

Thank you all for your on-going professionalism and civility.

Brian A. Fielding

Probate Judge, Town of North Kingstown