

**FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY
ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION**

ADMINISTRATIVE DOCKET
No. 22 of 2021

In Re: Full Reopening and Reinstatement of All Rules

ORDER

And now, this 28th day of June 2021, consistent with the terms of the June 21, 2021 Pennsylvania Supreme Court Order, No. 553 Judicial Administration Docket, and in accordance with all health and safety guidelines and protocols as set forth by the Centers for Disease Control, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the City of Philadelphia Department of Health and the First Judicial District, it is ORDERED and DECREED that **EFFECTIVE JULY 6, 2021:**

1. All Emergency Administrative Orders issued by this Court, including Administrative Order No. 17 of 2021, are hereby VACATED.
2. City Hall will be open and accessible to the public with normal security protocols.
3. The Orphans' Court Division will resume its normal in-person operations. When necessary and appropriate to ensure access and due process, remote and hybrid proceedings will be available at the sole discretion of each individual Orphans' Court Judge after consulting with all parties. All Advanced Communication Technology proceedings convened must be originated and operated from the Courtroom or Courthouse with the Orphans' Court Judge and Staff present.
4. **Emergency Guardianship Petitions** - The substitute procedure established under paragraph 8.H of the March 17, 2021 AGB Order No. 10 of 2020 and its subsequent amendments is VACATED. The Clerk of Orphans' Court will resume the normal processing of emergency citations that existed prior to the pandemic emergency declaration. While appointments are strongly recommended, no person shall be denied access to file required documents or to access information while exercising necessary safety precautions.
5. **Citations**- The Clerk of Orphans' Court shall resume the normal citation practice pursuant to Pa. Orphans' Court Rule 3.5 (a), Philadelphia Orphans' Court Rule 14.2(f) and Philadelphia Orphans' Court Rule 4.7A. Appointments are strongly recommended but no party shall be denied access to obtain the necessary documents.

The *Orphans' Court's Protocols and Guidelines for Conducting In-Person and Hybrid Judicial Proceedings*, which include specific provisions regarding presumption of in-person judicial proceedings and hybrid proceedings, are published on the Court's website at www.courts.phila.gov/covid-19 and may be amended from time to time.

BY THE COURT:

/s/ *Sheila Woods-Skipper*

**Hon. Sheila Woods-Skipper
Administrative Judge
Orphans' Court Division**