DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS BOARD ON PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY



May 18, 2020

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2020-5

This Order applies to all Board on Professional Responsibility or Hearing Committee cases

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, effective immediately, the Board on Professional Responsibility is adjusting its operations to address concerns regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The Board and its Hearing Committees shall not hold in-person proceedings prior to July 1, 2020. However, having determined that the Board has the technical capability to conduct proceedings remotely, oral arguments before the Board and limited hearings before Hearing Committees in negotiated discipline cases, will proceed as scheduled via videoconference. Telephonic prehearing proceedings shall continue. Parties with oral arguments before the Board may file a joint motion requesting that the Board consider the matter on the briefs and the record, in lieu of oral argument.

The Office of the Executive Attorney (OEA) will be closed to the public during this period. As addressed in Administrative Order 2020-1,

in order to file any document with the Board on Professional Responsibility, or any Hearing Committee, the filing party shall convert the document to a PDF and email it to casemanager@dcbpr.org. This includes all documents filed in pending cases, as well as Specifications of Charges, Petitions for Negotiated Discipline, Petitions for Reinstatement, and any other document filed with the Board or a Hearing Committee.

OEA staff will be working remotely during normal business hours, and may be

contacted at 202-638-4290.

OEA staff will contact the parties involved in matters to be conducted by

videoconference with information for participating in those matters remotely.

This Order does not extend any deadlines of any other matters pending

before the Board or any of the Hearing Committees. Any party requiring an

extension of any such deadline must file a motion with the Board or Hearing

Committee, as is appropriate. The Board and its Hearing Committees will continue

to decide matters that have already been submitted. All Board or Hearing Committee

reports and/or orders shall be served on the parties by email.

The Board will make additional adjustments as circumstances warrant, and

plans to issue another order regarding in-person proceedings scheduled for after July

1, 2020. Counsel and parties in those matters should note that, at this point, those

proceedings will take place as scheduled, and the technological or social distancing

measures necessary to allow those hearings to be conducted safely will be announced

in a later order.

BOARD ON PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

By:

Matthew G. Kaiser

Chair