



SAMANTHA H. CABE
CHIEF DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

JUDICIAL DISTRICT 15B
CHATHAM AND ORANGE COUNTIES

ORANGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
106 E. MARGARET LN.
PO BOX 1088, HILLSBOROUGH, NC 27278
O 919-644-4646 | F 919-644-4647

CHATHAM COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER
40 E. CHATHAM ST.
PO BOX 369, PITTSBORO, NC 27312
O 919-545-3500 | F 919-644-4647

January 19, 2021

****MEMORANDUM****

TO: All with interest in Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency Proceedings in District 15B

FROM: Samantha H. Cabe, Chief District Court Judge

RE: Remote Hearings in DSS Cases

Dear Child Welfare Stakeholder:

Effective immediately and continuing through and including Friday, February 19, 2021, all court proceedings in Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency Proceedings in Chatham and Orange Counties shall be conducted remotely via WebEx, unless a party to a proceeding objects to conducting the proceeding remotely and the presiding judge determines that good cause exists to hold the proceeding in person.

If there is an objection to any proceeding being held remotely, that objection shall be made in one of the following ways:

- 1) If no subpoenas for documents or testimony have been issued by either party or a judge for a hearing scheduled during this time, the objecting party or his/her counsel may appear remotely and object at the call of the calendar on the date and time the matter is scheduled to be heard. If the objection is allowed, the matter shall be continued to a date and time when an in-person hearing may be held.
- 2) If subpoenas have been issued for documents or testimony by either party or a judge for a hearing scheduled during this time, the objecting party or his/her counsel must file an objection in writing at least 5 business days in advance of the hearing date, and serve said written objection upon all other non-moving parties. All written objections must also be emailed to the email addresses below.
- 3) If the objecting party is self-represented and has no access to the internet and device that allows both audio and video transmission in order to appear remotely at the call of the calendar, she may file an objection in writing 48 hours prior to the scheduled court appearance with the Chief District Court Judge and the Clerk of Court via the email addresses below or by personal delivery to the Juvenile Clerk at the respective county's courthouse. All written objections must also be served on all other parties to the proceeding, including the DSS Attorney, the Guardian Ad Litem Attorney, and any other party or their attorney if represented. If the objection is allowed, the matter shall be continued to a date and time when an in-person hearing may be held. If the objection is not allowed, the matter shall be continued to the next remote hearing session, and all absent parties notified.

- Chief District Court Judge Email: Orange.DistrictTCC@nccourts.org
- Orange County Juvenile Clerk: Orange.Juvenile@nccourts.org
- Chatham County Juvenile Clerk: Chatham.Juvenile@nccourts.org

A more detailed Administrative Order and/or temporary local rules governing remote proceedings will be forthcoming.

