

State of South Carolina

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Workers' Compensation Commission

ADVISORY NOTICE

**Revised Protocols for Remote Appearances by
Parties and/ or Witnesses and Virtual Hearings**

October 27, 2025

Due to increasing concerns regarding access to venues, obtainability of court reporters, availability of witnesses, and security of the participants, the Commission may order parties to appear virtually for a hearing. For hearings on the merits, in-person appearances will remain the default.

The parties may consent to conduct the proceeding virtually. Parties must contact the hearing commissioner's administrative assistant to request a virtual proceeding after receiving the hearing notice.

In instances where a practical venue is not available, no court reporter can be secured, witnesses or parties are unable to appear in person, the Commissioner has concerns regarding safety of the participants, or the Commissioner otherwise determines a virtual hearing is necessary, the Commissioner may order all or part of a hearing be conducted using electronic communications. The Commission remains highly cognizant of all parties' due process right to a fair opportunity to be heard. In the event a party objects to a virtual hearing, the Commissioner will balance the party's concerns with the Commission's goal of conducting hearings in a fair, swift, and safe manner on a case-by-case basis. This advisory notice supersedes the advisory notice of September 13, 2021, and any other prior advisory notices concerning in-person and virtual hearings.

Please direct questions or comments to:

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