

Instructions for Appearance by Videoconference in Criminal Cases

Counsel may appear for certain proceedings, as set forth below, by contacting the Court's Judicial Assistant, Lisa Elkhouri, by email to Lisa.Elkhouri@flcourts18.org prior to the proceeding the Scheduling page of davidsilverman.com.

Proceedings Authorized

Videoconference appearance for counsel is authorized for the following proceedings:

1. Docket Sounding, Calendar Call, Orders to Show Cause, and hearings on Civil Traffic Infractions, Motions to Recall Bench Warrant and non-evidentiary motion hearings, except as set forth below;
2. Plea of Guilty or No Contest hearings provided a completed plea form and any required set of fingerprints are provided in written form prior to the plea and provided incarceration is not then being imposed; and,
3. Any other hearing or proceeding for which leave to appear by videoconference is granted.

Proceedings Not Authorized

Videoconference appearance is not authorized for:

1. Jury and Non-Jury Trials, except as authorized by an operative Florida Supreme Court Administrative Order;
2. Bond hearings, including, without limitation, hearings on Motion to Revoke Bond, Motions to Modify Bond and Motions to Vacate Bond Forfeiture; and,
3. Any proceeding for which the Court has directed appearance only in person.

Preparation

Prior to the hearing be sure you have:

- Access to a computer, tablet, or phone, that has a microphone and camera;
- Internet access during the entire hearing;
- Your driver's license or other government-issued ID.

Attendance

To attend the hearing:

- Access the appropriate link from the Court's Calendar, accessible from the Calendar page of davidsilverman.com.
- Please click on "Click here to joint the meeting" and follow the instructions to open the Microsoft Teams© app, and click on "Join as guest" and wait in the lobby to be admitted to the meeting.

Participation

Once the hearing starts:

- Make sure that you have your microphone and camera turned on;
- Remember, the Rules of Evidence apply.

Testimony

If a witness is permitted to testify, the witness must have:

- Access to a video conference-ready, computer, tablet, or phone;
- An email address; and,
- A valid government-issued ID.

If the videoconference connection is interrupted please stand by and follow instructions to reestablish the connection. Persons appearing by videoconference should ensure a stable connection prior to the proceedings to avoid any inadvertent failure to appear.