

- **New Jersey State Court Procedures (Updated):**
 - **This update supplements the COVID-19 Rules by Court Summary of court procedures and postponements previously posted on March 26, 2020. This is an overview of the current directives, which can change daily, and differ by County or Judge. Please consult with your attorneys regarding any specific case and/or questions you may have regarding these policies.**
 - New Jersey issued an Omnibus Order on March 27, 2020, extending prior directives and suspensions of state time periods through and including April 26, 2020. Our earlier summary of key point is further supplemented with the new directives.
 - **Overview of directives affecting courts state-wide:**
 - No in-person appearances, except for emergency situations, and, to extent practicable, all court matters including hearings, conference, and arguments will be conducted by video or phone.
 - E-filing and paper filing remain available, with certain limitations on hard copy drop offs.
 - Statute of Limitations and time periods under Court rules are tolled such that the time from March 28, 2020 through April 26, 2020 are deemed legal holidays.
 - New jury trials postponed until April 26, 2020.
 - Rules requiring original signatures are relaxed to allow for electronic signatures.
 - **Overview of discovery updates:**
 - Rules pertaining to discovery deadline extensions and summary judgment are relaxed to permit the extension of discovery deadlines through April 26, 2020.
 - Rules pertaining to time for responding to discovery items, including interrogatories and requests for admissions, are extended through April 26, 2020.
 - Depositions may be conducted remotely and court reporters can administer oaths remotely.
 - Depositions of any healthcare professional currently involved in providing COVID-19 care are suspended through April 26, 2020.
 - The time periods for dismissal of civil cases for lack of prosecution will be tolled through April 26, 2020.
 - The timeframe for service of valid and timely Notices of Tort Claim will be tolled from March 16 through April 26, 2020.
 - Civil Arbitration sessions scheduled from March 16 to April 10, 2020 have been postponed, and Civil Arbitration sessions scheduled from April 11 to April 26, 2020 will be rescheduled.