

- **New York State Court Procedures Update:**

This will supplement the COVID-19 Rules by Court Summary of court procedures and postponements previously posted on March 26, 2020. These are general rules which can change daily. Individual judges may also set specific rules for individual matters. Please consult with your attorneys regarding any specific case and/or questions you may have regarding these policies.

The below procedures set forth how to petition the court to commence or proceed with an “Essential Matter” and identifies how essential matters in Nassau County and Suffolk County will proceed by Skype or video conferencing.

- **E-File**

- NEW Cover page REQUIRED for Essential Matters:

- NOTE: As stated on the Courts Website : With respect to AO/78/20 Exhibit A section E -Persons who believe that a specific pending or new matter should be included in this highly restrictive "essential matters" group should apply to the court for this designation by emergency application by order to show cause, including a detailed explanation of the applicant’s rationale.
    - In order to assist in identifying those matters that are essential and being filed in accordance with AO/78/20 Exhibit A section E a new cover page has been created which must be filed along with any filing and must either:
      - (1) specify that a court has deemed the matter essential, in which case the filer must indicate the method of prior approval, or (2) that the papers being filed seek such a designation.

- The new Cover Page can be found on the FORMS page on the E-FILE website.

- **Nassau County**

- Effective April 1, 2020, all court operations in Nassau County will be conducted via Skype video conferencing for “Essential” matters.

- **Suffolk County**

- Virtual court operations for essential and emergency matters will commence via video conferencing on Monday, March 30, 2020 and Tuesday, March 31, 2020, respectively, in Suffolk County’s District Court and County Court.