DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

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ORDER

By virtue of the authority vested in me, as the Chief Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH), by Sections 8(a)(7), 8(b)(12), and (b)(13) of the Office of Administrative Hearings Establishment Act of 2001, effective March 6, 2002 (D.C. Law 14-76, D.C. Official Code §§ 2-1831.05(a)(7), (b)(12), and (b)(13)), it is hereby **ORDERED:**

OAH operations are adjusted as described below in response to the Mayor's Declaration that the public health emergency to address concerns regarding the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) has ended, effective July 25, 2021. Mayor's Order 2021-096. OAH will make additional adjustments as circumstances warrant and in keeping with the Mayor's further instructions to DC Government agencies.

The following procedures are in effect through November 7, 2021:

I. Hearings

Remote telephone hearings, currently in use, will continue to be held onward for all case types. In-person hearings will resume on October 12, 2021, for a limited number of case types. At the presiding Administrative Law Judge's discretion, video hearings may be scheduled on a case-by-case basis, balancing the equities of all parties, the nature of the proceedings, and the complexity of the evidence. In all cases in which an in-person or remote telephone hearing has been canceled, an order rescheduling the hearing will be sent to the parties.

II. 441 Fourth Street, NW, Suite 450N Open to the Public

OAH is open to the public on a modified operating schedule. Agency office hours are 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Effective July 19, 2021, OAH is also open to walk-in

Questions regarding your appeal during this period may be directed to (202) 442-9094 or oah.filing@dc.gov.

visitors, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. All visitors/members of the public are required to wear a mask throughout the duration of their visit.

III. Suspension/Tolling/Extension of Filing Deadlines

All filing deadlines are suspended/tolled/extended until August 24, 2021 (thirty calendar days following the end of the public health emergency) for the following case types:

- Unemployment Insurance (DOES)
- General Assistance for Children (DHS)
- TANF (DHS)
- Interim Disability Assistance (DHS)
- Power on Work, Employment, and Responsibility (DHS)
- Shelter and services for homeless persons (DHS)
- Rental Assistance Programs (DHS)
- Child Care Subsidy Programs (OSSE)
- Burial Assistance (DHS)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) (DOEE)
- Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DDS)
- Nursing Home Facility Resident Appeals (DOH)
- Mental Health Community Residence Facility Resident Appeals (DBH)
- Randolph-Sheppard Blind Vendor's Program (DDS)
- Attachment of a child support obligor's settlement funds on a personal injury or worker's compensation claim (OAG)
- Attachment and seizure of funds owned by child support obligors and held in financial institutions (OAG)
- Proposed denial, refusal to renew, or suspension of a driver's license and car registration of a child support obligor (OAG).

IV. New filings

OAH can receive new filings by email, mail, fax, and in-person during the hours OAH is open to the public for walk-in visitors, as described in Section II above. However, electronic filing and filing by fax are strongly encouraged. To file a document electronically with OAH, a party should email oah.filing@dc.gov. Except as provided in OAH Rule 2809.4, a document received during regular business hours, i.e., 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., on a business day will be filed that day. The filing date for a document received outside of normal business hours will be the next following regular business day. Any document filed by email must comply with OAH Rule 2841. In public benefits cases, as provided by OAH Rule 2971, a hearing may be requested by telephone as well. Requests should be made by calling 202-671-0055 or via TTY: 711.

Note: As stated above, all filing deadlines for the specified cases in Section III are suspended/tolled/extended until August 24, 2021.

V. Requesting Reconsideration, a New Hearing, or Relief from a Final Order

The time an Administrative Law Judge has to rule on any motion requesting reconsideration, a new hearing, or relief from a final order is suspended/tolled/extended until August 24, 2021. Any motion requesting reconsideration, a new hearing, or relief from a final order, to which an ALJ has not issued an applicable Order, will not be deemed denied or denied by operation of law until after August 24, 2021.

VI. Mediations

OAH has commenced remote mediations in all cases; this practice will continue until further notice. Postponed mediations will continue to be scheduled or rescheduled accordingly by the presiding Administrative Law Judge for each case.

M. Collecti Currie

Chief Administrative Law Judge

25 July 2021

Date