

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

NOTICE REGARDING ELECTRONIC HEARINGS IN TRAFFIC TICKET CASES

The Governor of Florida has issued an order as a result of Covid-19 requiring courts to conduct certain hearings remotely. Traffic ticket cases, if conducted at this time, must be conducted remotely. The Court anticipates and encourages parties to agree to “virtual” hearings.

PROCEDURES

We will use Zoom conferencing to conduct the hearings. Zoom is free to download. You and your witnesses will need to download Zoom at www.zoom.us, or download the app directly to your cell phone. The Court will email you a link to the hearing or provide a phone number if a self-represented litigant or witness does not have internet access. If you only have a telephone, you can still dial into the hearing and the parties can hear you but not see you at the hearing and you can hear those participating. A witness should appear by video conferencing. If a witness does not have the ability to video conference and can only call on the phone, the witness can testify but cannot testify regarding any exhibits.

EXHIBITS

If you intend to offer any exhibits during the remote hearing, they must be e-filed and accepted into the Clerk file five days prior to the hearing.

AGREEMENT TO APPEAR ELECTRONICALLY

By requesting a hearing at this time, you are agreeing to have your case heard electronically. All witness testimony will be taken virtually. The Court prefers for these virtual hearings to be held for **only** contested tickets.

If you are not contesting the ticket and only requesting a withhold of adjudication and **no points** assessed against you, there is no hearing required. Please see Judge Healis’s “Plea of No Contest and Request for Withhold of Adjudication” form attached.

**PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK OF COURT TO MAKE SURE YOU RECEIVE AN
EMAIL WITH THE LINK FOR YOUR ZOOM HEARING.**