



## St. Croix County Government Center

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**HON. SCOTT J. NORDSTRAND**  
Circuit Court Judge – Br. I  
Courtroom 1  
(715) 386-4613

**HON. EDWARD F. VLACK**  
Circuit Court Judge – Br. II  
Courtroom 2  
(715) 386-4612

**HON. SCOTT R. NEEDHAM**  
Circuit Court Judge – Br. III  
Courtroom 3  
(715) 386-4611

**HON. R. MICHAEL WATERMAN**  
Circuit Court Judge – Br. IV  
Courtroom 4  
(715) 377-5825

May 4, 2020

Members of the Bar:

We are very appreciative of your willingness and flexibility in adapting to our “new normal” regarding court appearances. As you are aware, the Supreme Court has indefinitely extended the “no in-person” court appearance rule. Also, Chief Justice Roggensack has recently formed a COVID 19 Task Force “to recommend a framework of criteria under which Wisconsin courts throughout the state can safely continue court proceedings, including jury trials.” With that anticipated framework, we are hopeful that St. Croix County will be able to implement processes and procedures that address public health concerns while ensuring access and efficiencies to our court proceedings.

As a result, at this time we are extending our use of ZOOM technology through the end of May. With the use of that technology, the judges / commissioners expect the following:

1. Attorneys will appear by video ZOOM and not telephone. Notices will include pertinent information for “connecting”.
2. Clients will appear by video ZOOM when practicable. Notices will include pertinent information for “connecting”.
3. Attorneys will continue to observe local rules regarding proper attire and decorum albeit by video.
4. In conducting evidentiary hearings, documents / exhibits should be e-filed in advance of a hearing. An alternative is to use the “document share” feature of ZOOM. However, that alternative is not preferred.
5. Be patient. We are aware that you may be in the ZOOM waiting room for an extended period of time before the hearing begins. This is similar to in-court appearances when calendars are running late. Also, we are human and sometimes may hit the wrong button.

Use of ZOOM and “no in-person” appearances may continue beyond May 31. We will continue to monitor the situation and timely inform the Bar of any changes.

Again, thank you for your continued understanding and cooperation.

St. Croix County Circuit Court:

Honorable Scott J. Nordstrand, Branch I  
Honorable Edward F. Vlack, Branch II  
Honorable Scott R. Needham, Branch III  
Honorable R. Michael Waterman, Branch IV