

In the Iowa Supreme Court

**In the Matter of Adopting
Chapter 15 of the Iowa Court
Rules, Iowa Rules of Remote
Procedure**

Order

On March 10, 2023, the supreme court established the Remote Proceedings Task Force. The court charged the task force with making recommendations for court rules or policies for the standard use of remote proceedings in criminal, civil, family law, and juvenile cases.

Chief Justice Susan Larson Christensen served as chair of the task force. The task force included 110 members representing judges, magistrates, the state public defender's office, the attorney general's office, attorneys in private practice, service providers, county attorneys, legal aid, court administrators, judicial specialists, court reporters, juvenile court services, and supreme court staff.

The task force comprised four work groups:

- Criminal Work Group, with Judge Celene Gogerty as work group chair and attorneys Nicholas Sarcone and Brian Williams as co-chairs.
- Civil Work Group, with Judge Amy Moore as work group chair and attorneys Greg Lederer and Jessica Ruba-Dunning as co-chairs.
- Family Law Work Group, with Judge Chad Kepros as work group chair and attorneys Danielle Ellingson and Stacy Warren as co-chairs.
- Juvenile Work Group, with Judge Linnea Nicol as work group chair and Judge Richelle Mahaffey and attorney Emily Grothe as co-chairs.

Each work group developed a proposed set of rules. The court took the work groups' proposals into consideration and developed a set of court rules to govern the use of remote proceedings in Iowa district courts.

Prior to taking any further action, the court put the proposed rules out for public comment, lasting from July 10 through August 3, 2023. Ten public

comments were submitted for the court's review. After reviewing the public comments, the court made additional changes to the proposed rules.

The supreme court adopts the Chapter 15 Iowa Rules of Remote Procedure. The new chapter 15 rules provided with this order are effective January 1, 2024.

Dated this 7th day of September 2023.

The Iowa Supreme Court

By: 

Susan Larson Christensen, Chief Justice