DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS



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AMENDED GENERAL ORDER CONCERNING COMMISSION CASES IN LIGHT OF COVID19 June 17, 2020

In response to COVID-19 the Commission on Human Rights is operating in a remote status with no staff onsite as long as the Mayor has declared a Public Health Emergency. Email and telephone messages are being monitored. Due to the limited resources for processing mail, please call or email a request, document or image of a document to avoid a delay in processing your request. Requests and documents can be emailed to Commission.COHR@dc.gov.

Consistent with the District of Columbia Superior Court's March 30, 2020, Order, on April 8, 2020, the Commission issued an Order suspending, tolling, and extending deadlines through May 15, 2020. On May 26, 2020, the Commission issued an Order further extending deadlines through June 8, 2020. This Order further suspends, tolls, and extends deadlines during the period of the current emergency through **Phase I and Phase II reopening**. Unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, all deadlines and time limits in Commission rules and orders issued by the Commission **that would otherwise expire during the public health emergency,** are tolled and extended during the period of the current emergency up to and including Phase I and Phase II reopening. Operating status and deadlines will be reassessed when the District reaches and defines a Phase III reopening.

The deadlines tolled and extended include but are not limited to (1) rule-based deadlines such as time limits for service of process, responding to discovery requests, and events leading to a pretrial conference and (2) case-specific orders issued before **May 15, 2020**, such as scheduling orders and briefing schedules.

To avoid confusion, parties with cases that have existing deadlines before May 15, 2020, will be contacted about new timeframes. This Order does not preclude a party from taking an action even though the deadline for action is suspended, tolled, or extended because of the current emergency. During this time, the Commission will continue to decide any motions filed and hold virtual status conferences when needed or requested. Any questions can be directed to Commission.COHR@dc.gov.

SO ORDERED,

Erika L. Pierson

Chief Administrative Law Judge

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