



**QUESTION:**

I am scheduled to appear at a hearing at the Maryland Insurance Administration. Should I appear as scheduled for my hearing?

**ANSWER:**

Due to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and to ensure the safety of all parties scheduled to appear for hearings at the Maryland Insurance Administration, in-person hearings at the office of the Maryland Insurance Administration have been suspended to prevent the spread of COVID-19 through June 1, 2020. The hearings office is closely monitoring this situation and will be contacting parties scheduled for a hearing to provide updates on the status of their hearing by regular mail, e-mail and phone as necessary. Please see [Standing Order 05-2020](#)

If your hearing has been postponed, the hearings and appeals clerk will contact counsel (if the parties are represented) or the parties directly to reschedule a new hearing date.

The hearings office continues to process correspondence or filings received through regular mail or by e-mail at [appealsclerkcontacts.mia@maryland.gov](mailto:appealsclerkcontacts.mia@maryland.gov) related to any hearing.

If you have any questions or concerns about a hearing, please contact the hearings and appeals clerk at 410-468-2018 or submit your inquiry by email at [appealsclerkcontacts.mia@maryland.gov](mailto:appealsclerkcontacts.mia@maryland.gov).

**QUESTION:**

Is there any way to conduct my hearing as scheduled, even if it cannot be held in-person at the MIA?

**ANSWER:**

The Maryland Insurance Administration has initiated a pilot program (“Video Pilot”) to offer parties an option to hold their hearings as scheduled, by video conference, using the Google Hangout Meets video meeting platform. You may be contacted about whether you wish to voluntarily participate in the Video Pilot.

To be eligible to participate in the Video Pilot, the following conditions apply:

- All parties must consent to waive an in-person hearing.

- Copies of all hearing exhibits will need to be provided to the parties, with a copy of the exhibits sent to the Maryland Insurance Administration, no later than 5 days prior to the scheduled hearing date. Exhibits should be pre-marked. They may be sent by mail or email to the Hearings and Appeals Clerk as follows:

Mailing Address:

Debra Sawyer  
Hearing and Appeals Clerk  
Maryland Insurance Administration  
Suite 2700  
200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, Maryland 21202

E-mail Address:

[appealsclerkcontacts.mia@maryland.gov](mailto:appealsclerkcontacts.mia@maryland.gov)

- All participants must have access to a video and audio enabled computer, plus a reliable internet connection.
- All parties will be expected to join the video conference on the scheduled hearing date and time.
- Failure of any participant to join the conference may result in their inability to present evidence or testimony, and/or may result in a default judgment being entered against them
- The hearing officer will retain the authority to determine that the personal appearance of any or all participants is necessary in order to avoid substantial prejudice to a party or unfairness of the proceeding. See Md. Rule 2-804(a).

If any of the above conditions cannot be met, the hearing will be postponed and an in-person hearing will be rescheduled to a later date.

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