



State of New York
Supreme Court, Appellate Division
Third Judicial Department
P.O. Box 7288, Capitol Station
Albany, NY 12224-0288

Robert D. Mayberger
Clerk of the Court

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<http://www.nycourts.gov/ad3>

Beth Lifshin-Clark
Deputy Clerk

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE MARCH 2020 TERM

You are currently scheduled to appear for oral argument during the Court's March 2020 Term, which commences on Monday, March 23 and concludes on Friday, March 27. As you are likely aware, on March 7, 2020, Governor Andrew Cuomo declared a State of Emergency in New York State to contain the spread of the COVID-19 novel coronavirus. Since then, the Governor and other public health officials have taken additional steps to limit public gatherings in the hope of slowing the spread of the coronavirus. Generally, courts in this state provide open access to all persons, and we recognize the importance of each and every matter that comes before this Court. However, in light of the COVID-19 outbreak and the advice of executive and public health officials, the Third Department is also focused on protecting the health and safety of those who appear before, and work in, the Court.

To that end, we **strongly encourage** the parties to submit their matters on the briefs and proceed without oral argument. Be assured that the Court treats all matters on its calendar with utmost respect and care, regardless of whether a matter is orally argued, and that the absence of oral argument will not affect the manner in which your matter is considered and decided.

If you require oral argument, you must contact this Court's Clerk's office at 518-471-4777 no later than March 20, 2020 to request a new date for argument. **Please be advised that we are rescheduling all matters to be argued.**

For more information about the COVID-19 virus and the precautions you can take to avoid exposure to it, please visit the New York State Department of Health website at <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/>, or contact the Department of Health's Coronavirus Hotline at 888-364-3065.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we deal with this public health threat.