



CLEMENT RIVERS, LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Clement Rivers, LLP's COVID-19 Quick Reference Guide for South Carolina^{1 2}

STATE/ COUNTRY	GENERAL STATUS	LOCAL JURISDICTION STATUS	COURTS/LEGAL STATUS	MISC./USEFUL LINKS
SOUTH CAROLINA	<p>A statewide state of emergency is still in place. There is no statewide face coverings or masks law.</p> <p>Read order: HERE</p>	<p>Face covering or mask mandates of local jurisdictions (counties, municipalities, and other political subdivisions) are no longer valid based upon the May 11, 2021 executive order of the Governor.</p> <p>Read order: HERE</p>	<p>Statewide in-person proceedings (except jury trials) resumed on March 15, 2021. In-person jury trials resumed April 5, 2021.</p> <p>RE: Operation of the Trial Courts During the Coronavirus Emergency (As Amended February 4, 2022):</p> <p>Remote Communication Technology = RCT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judges may continue to elect to hear motions without hearings, provided parties have time to respond. SC attorneys may serve documents on other lawyers via a lawyer's primary email address listed in AIS, except for summons and complaint, subpoena, or other documents requiring personal service. 	<p>SC Business/Employer Contact Guide HERE</p> <p>SC DHEC Coronavirus HERE</p> <p>SC Department of Insurance HERE</p> <p>SC Emergency Management Division HERE</p> <p>SC Employment & Workforce COVID-19 Resource Hub: HERE</p> <p>SC Judicial Department HERE</p> <p>SC Workers' Compensation Commission HERE</p> <p>United States District Court, District of South Carolina HERE</p>

¹ This Quick Reference Guide is a compilation of various local, state, and federal orders, all of which are subject to change. Please verify with the appropriate jurisdiction before relying on any orders related to deadlines. Clement Rivers, LLP attorneys are available to help you with any specific questions.

² Last updated February 1, 2022 at 9:00am ET.

- Attorneys may sign with electronic signatures.
- Clerks may accept filings via optional filing methods.
- Oaths in trials, hearings, discovery, and mediation or arbitration may be administered via RCT per [Rule 612, SCACR](#).
- Extensions via consent of counsel no longer allowed. [Rule 6\(b\), SCRCP](#), governs extension again.

Statute of limitations, repose, and similar statutes are NOT tolled at this time.

This order expires on May 5, 2022, unless extended. *Eff. 04/03/2020; Updated 06/15/2021; Extended 7/30/2021; Updated 8/27/2021; Updated 1/28/2022, eff. 2/4/2022.*

Read Order: [HERE](#)

Protective masks or other facial coverings are REQUIRED while inside county and municipal courthouses. During courtroom proceedings, the judge may require the removal of masks or face coverings for a brief

period of time for the fair presentation of the case. In such instances social distancing should be observed. Persons may be required by judges, courthouse staff, or law enforcement to briefly remove their mask when necessary for identification purposes. All persons employed in, conducting business in, or otherwise visiting or present for any reason in county and municipal courthouses statewide shall be screened for fever by courthouse staff using an infrared or temporal thermometer. Anyone who registers a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or above shall not be admitted. Any person who refuses to comply with these directives is subject to contempt for violation of this order. This order does not prohibit anyone from wearing other PPE, including but not limited to gloves, in addition to their mask or other facial covering. *Eff. 07/30/2020.*

Read Order:
[HERE](#)

Upon the request of a required attendee at mediation, attendance by video conference is

permitted. *Eff.*
03/19/2020

Read Order:
[HERE](#)
Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) rules allow that “[u]nless a party objects, an ADR Conference . . . may be conducted in whole or in party by ODR [Online Dispute Resolution].” Rule 5, SCADR. *Amended* 04/29/2021.

Read Rule:
[HERE](#)

SC State Appellate Courts is holding oral arguments and hearings by Cisco WebEx. Rules for service/delivery of appellate documents are modified as outlined in the Order. While order is in place, no fee for extensions of time. All due dates from 3/20/2020 through 06/08/2020 are extended 20 days, except notice to file appeal. There will be forgiveness of procedural defaults from 3/13/2020 to 03/20/2020. *Eff.* 05/29/2020

Read Order:
[HERE](#)

“[A]n appellate court may conduct oral argument in a case using remote

communication technology [RCT].” Rule 21, SCACR. *Amended 04/29/2021.*

Read Rule: [HERE](#)

Participation in Closings of Real Estate Transactions – to the extent that the Rules of Professional Conduct may require an attorney to be physically present at the closing of a real estate transaction and in close proximity to the parties to the transaction, an attorney may participate in and supervise the closing of a real estate transaction by way of a video conference. Necessary persons to a real estate transaction may, under the direction of the supervising attorney, similarly participate in the real estate closing by way of a video conference, provided any necessary person so consents; further, the supervising attorney shall ensure that the attestation of a recordable instrument is accomplished, which may be satisfied by use of real-time audio-visual communication technology, provided the identity of any necessary person is confirmed and a notary attests the

signature of any necessary person. The supervising attorney shall consult with any lender(s) and any participating title insurance company to ensure that the real estate closing measures taken are acceptable to the applicable lender(s) and title insurance company. This order is effective as of May 1, 2020 and remains in effect until August 1, 2022, unless modified or rescinded earlier. *Eff. 05/01/2020.*

Read Order:
[HERE](#)

United States District Court—District of South Carolina: all civil/criminal jury selections, jury trials, and roster meetings will proceed in the discretion of the presiding judge. *Eff. 06/04/2021.*

Read Order:
[HERE](#)

United States District Court—District of South Carolina: the following person shall not enter a federal courthouse in the District of South Carolina:

1. Anyone fully vaccinated and diagnosed with COVID-19 within the previous 5-days,
2. Anyone not fully vaccinated and

			<p>diagnosed with COVID-19 within the previous 10-days,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Anyone who has had close contact with someone with COVID-19 within the past 10-days AND is (a) unvaccinated, or (b) completed primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine more than 6-months ago and is not boosted, or (c) completed Johnson & Johnson vaccine more than 2-months ago and not boosted,4. Anyone currently under a directive from a healthcare provider or state or local health authority to self-quarantine,5. Anyone with any current symptoms of COVID-19 identified by the CDC, including fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea.	
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Eff. 01/20/2022

Read Order:
[HERE](#)

**Neither state nor federal
courts have issued
orders tolling statutes
of limitation.**