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COVID-19 & IN-COURT PROCEEDINGS

NOW AND FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE

- In person interactions will have to be limited
 - Protecting Court staff, Judges, Attorneys, Defendants and witnesses
- Criminal cases still need to be handled, one way or another

Modern Problems Require Modern Solutions





Zoom Enables Conferring & Court Appearances

- Digital Discovery + Zoom Video Meetings
 - Most of the functions of working up cases can be accomplished from both sides
 - Imperfect substitute

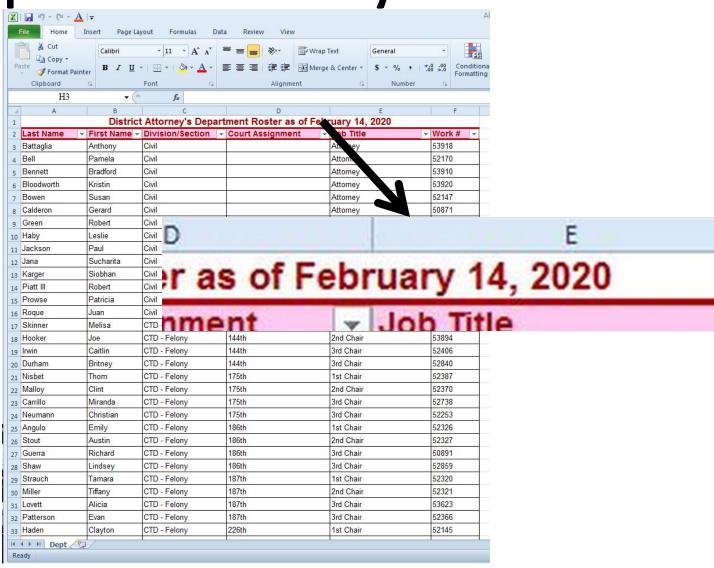
Conferring With Your Prosecutor

Procedure will vary from court to court

- Prosecutors can host a "docket"
 - (just remember: always available by e-mail)

The Court can call virtual dockets

That's nice...but who is the prosecutor on my case?



Zoom Docket

ADA Christian Neumann is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Link

E-Mail Invitation:

viali ilivitation.

Meeting ID

Join Zoom Meeting

https://bexar.zoom.us/j/7691355096

Meeting ID: 769 135 5096

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,7691355096# US (Houston)

+12063379723,,7691355096# US (Seattle)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 206 337 9723 US (Seattle)

+1 213 338 8477 US (Los Angeles)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 602 753 0140 US (Phoenix)

+1 669 219 2599 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 720 928 9299 US (Denver)

+1 971 247 1195 US (Portland)

+1 470 250 9358 US (Atlanta)

+1 470 381 2552 US (Atlanta)

+1 646 518 9805 US (New York)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 651 372 8299 US (St. Paul)

+1 786 635 1003 US (Miami)

+1 267 831 0333 US (Philadelphia)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

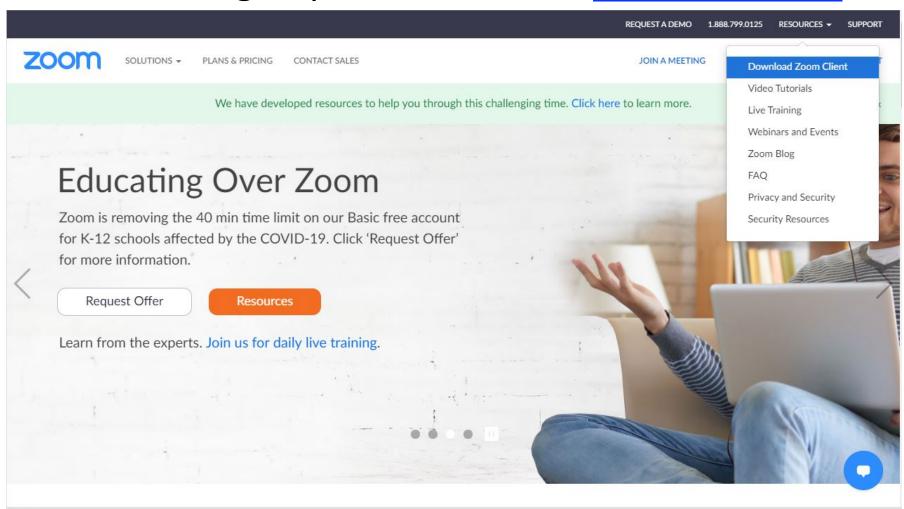
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 769 135 5096

Find your local number: https://bexar.zoom.us/u/amswL0LKH

If You're Here, You Figured It Out

FREE to sign up & download – www.zoom.us



What To Expect When You Zoom

- Prosecutors are all working remotely
 - Access to local criminal history
 - E-Discovery
 - Generating Plea Documents
 - Investigators are also remote, so those requests take a little longer
 - Out of county criminal history, witness contact info, etc.

What To Expect When You Zoom

- Breakout Rooms
 - Separate virtual room for conferring in private
 - Also utilized in Zoom Pleas
- File Sharing
 - Chat function in Zoom allows parties to send files directly & instantly
- Not limited to just plea bargain talk
 - Discovery issues, presenting defenses

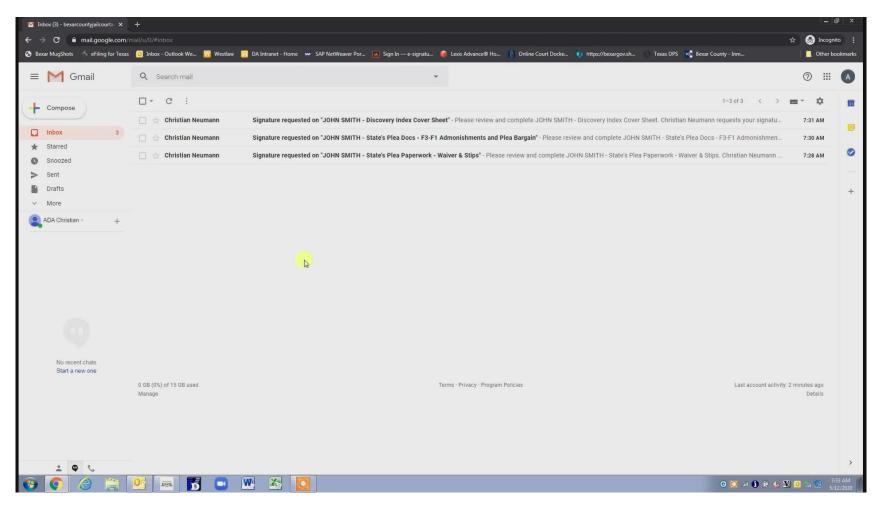
You Zoomed...Now What?



Paperwork Comes from the ADA & the Court

- Just like in Court
 - Inform the coordinator that we have a plea agreement
 - ADA drafts "the paperwork" Stips, Plea Bargain & Discovery
 - Court provides Applications, Cert of Appeal, etc.
- All you need: E-mail & Internet

AdobeSign Paperwork



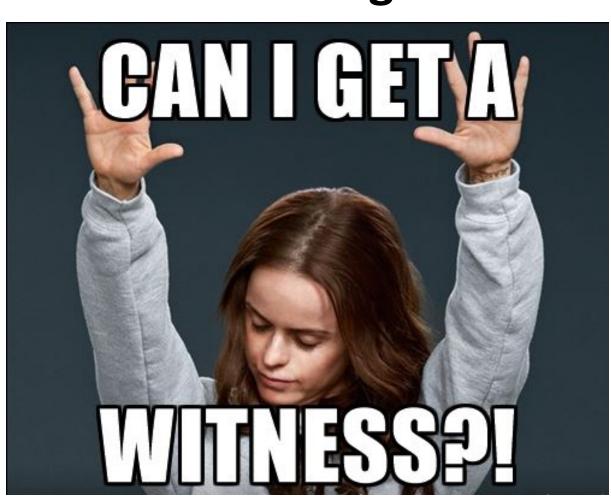
Remember...this is FREE for you

Pleas for Bond vs. Inmate Defendants

- Rule of Thumb So Far:
 - Jail: Anything Goes***
 - Agreed Probation Recommendations
 - Agreed Prison Trips (even if TDC is "closed" right now)
 - OR pleas that require a PSI (case-specific)
 - Bond
 - No hearings where the defendant might have to go into custody at that stage (i.e., opposed's reset until in-person)
 - Recommended probation is most common scenario for bond zoom pleas right now

^{***}Both sides still have to consent to the process***

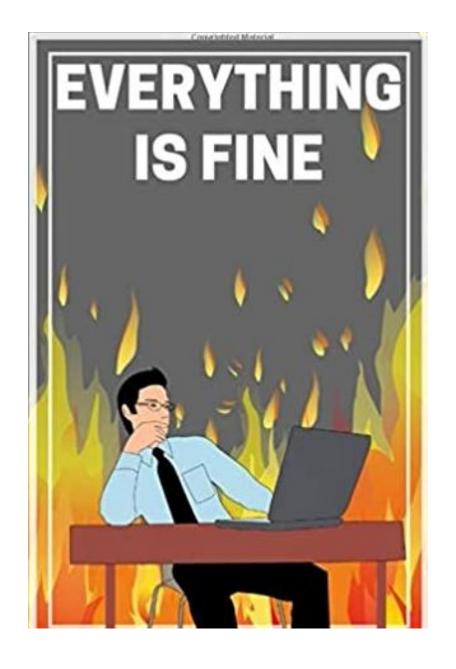
Sentencing & Other Evidentiary Hearings



Exhibits & Relevant Documents

- Planning to use any exhibits or documents?
 - Plan ahead!
- Who needs it & when
 - Slightly different timing for Prosecutor vs. Defense Counsel
- Sharing Docs: E-mail, GoogleDrive, DropBox
 - Agreeing ahead of time: Never required, but it does make life easier during the hearing

Just Remember...



-No need to buy any computer software

-All you need is Internet, E-mail, & a device with a camera on it (smart phone, tablet, laptop, etc.)

-If you're having trouble, don't be afraid to ask for help: MABA, SACDLA, SABA, the ADA, your kids