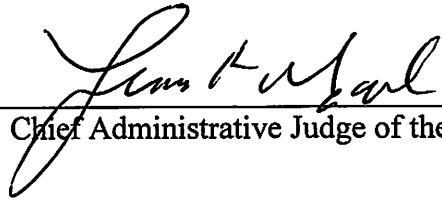


ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE OF THE COURTS

Pursuant to the authority vested in me, at the direction of the Chief Judge, and consistent with the Governor's determination approving the easing of restrictions on commerce imposed due to the COVID-19 health emergency, I hereby direct that, effective October 23, 2020:

1. Resumption of Foreclosure Matters: All residential, commercial, and in rem foreclosure matters may proceed in the normal course, subject to (a) current or future federal and state emergency relief provisions governing time limits for the commencement and prosecution of matters, limitation of foreclosure-related remedies, and similar issues, (b) individual court scheduling requirements occasioned by health and safety concerns arising from the coronavirus health emergency, and (c) the foreclosure conference requirement set forth in AO/157/20, as modified in paragraphs 2 and 3 below.
2. Vacant and Abandoned Property: The status or settlement conference requirement of AO/157/20 shall not apply where the foreclosing lender submits an affirmation to the court averring that, following diligent inquiry, it knows the property at issue to be currently abandoned and vacant.
3. In Rem Foreclosures: The status or settlement conference requirement of AO/157/20 shall apply to in rem foreclosures only when the enforcing officer believes that such a conference would be in the public interest.
4. Filing and Service: Filing and service of process in foreclosure proceedings shall continue as set forth in Administrative Order AO/121/20.
5. Remote Proceedings: Foreclosure proceedings should be conducted remotely whenever appropriate.
6. Auctions:
 - (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of any judgment of foreclosure, all foreclosure auctions shall be conducted in accordance with the applicable judicial district foreclosure auction plan and rules in effect at the time of the auction.
 - (b) All foreclosure auctions, without regard to location, shall comply with UCS COVID-19 related protocols addressing social distancing, wearing of masks, and (if indoors) screening of attendees. If such compliance is not possible, the auction shall be relocated or, if necessary, postponed.
 - (c) All foreclosure auction plans within the City of New York shall provide for the contingencies of both outdoor and indoor auctions.

This order supersedes the provisions of any other Administrative Order inconsistent with its terms.



Chief Administrative Judge of the Courts

Dated: October 22, 2020

AO/232/20