

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW
UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION COURT
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

**STANDING ORDER OF THE BOSTON IMMIGRATION COURT
RELATING TO TELEPHONIC APPEARANCES OF COUNSEL,
PERMITTED ATTENDEES AT MASTER CALENDAR AND
INDIVIDUAL HEARINGS, AND ELECTRONIC FILINGS**

JUNE 10, 2020

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, effective immediately and continuing until further order of the court:

- 1) Any attorney or representative for any party may appear telephonically in cases before the Boston Immigration Court without prior approval and without filing a motion in advance. Attorneys who would like to appear telephonically for a particular case should inform the Boston Immigration Court, main desk, in advance of the hearing by calling 1-617-565-3080, provide the Alien number, the name of the judge and the best phone number at which the attorney will answer. Also during this time period, requests to continue cases due to COVID-19 concerns should be filed with as much notice as possible, but may on an emergency basis be made to the court by e-mail to Boston.Immigration.Court@EOIR.USDOJ.GOV while serving opposing counsel.
- 2) Any individual who wishes to appear telephonically does so with the understanding that any paper or electronic filings to be considered by the Court must be in the official record of proceeding in accordance with any deadlines set by the Court or, if none, in accordance with the filing deadlines set forth in the Immigration Court Practice Manual. No additional filings will be accepted at the hearing if counsel does not appear in person, and the decision of the Court will be based on the documents in the record at the close of the hearing.
- 3) Any party appearing telephonically waives the right to object to admissibility of any document offered in Court on the sole basis that they are unable to examine the document.
- 4) If the Court is unable to reach counsel by telephone for the hearing, counsel will thereafter be required to appear in-person at any rescheduled hearing.
- 5) In-court proceedings shall be limited to attorneys, parties, witnesses, security

officers, and any other necessary people, which will be determined by the presiding judge.

6) Three-Month Temporal Limit on Filings through Email:

The Boston Immigration Court is imposing a three-month temporal filing limit on documents filed through email. Effective immediately, the court will reject documents filed via the temporary e-mail boxes if filed more than three months before the next hearing date or a court-ordered deadline (“call-up date”), whichever is earlier. Those wishing to file documents more than three months in advance may still do so; however, they must be sent to the court via the U.S. Postal Service or an overnight delivery service, not through the temporary e-mail box.

HEARING EXAMPLE: If documents are filed via the temporary e-filing mailbox on April 20, 2020, for a hearing scheduled on or before July 19, 2020, they will be accepted provided they conform to the ICPM and the e-mail filing instructions. However, if documents are filed on April 20, 2020, for a hearing scheduled on or after July 20, 2020, they will be rejected.

CALL-UP DATE EXAMPLE: If documents are filed via the temporary e-filing mailbox on April 20, 2020, for a call-up date scheduled on or before July 19, 2020, they will be accepted provided they conform to the ICPM and the e-mail filing instructions. However, if documents are filed on April 20, 2020, for a call-up date scheduled on or after July 20, 2020, they will be rejected.

Documents rejected for not complying with the three-month temporal limit on filing may be filed by mail or through an overnight delivery service. Notwithstanding the three-month temporal limit on filings through email, parties are required to comply with all deadlines for filings, as specified in the ICPM, Ch. 3.1(b).

NOTE: Applications for asylum are exempt from the three-month temporal limit on filings through email and will be considered filed on the date of receipt for purposes of the one-year filing deadline.

EMAIL:

The subject of your email must contain the nature of the filing, the alien registration number, the date of the next hearing or any court-mandate deadline for the filing, and the initials of the immigration judge assigned to the case.

EXAMPLE: A filer of a motion to continue with a case with alien registration number 012345678 and a hearing date of 06/30/2020 would input, "Motion to Continue - 012345678 - 06/30/2020" in the subject line of the email. If the filer

knows the hearing is scheduled before Judge William A. Jones, the subject would be, "Motion to Continue - 012345678 - 06/30/2020 - WAJ"

EXAMPLE: A filer of an application for cancellation of removal with a case with alien registration number 012345678 and a hearing date on 01/02/2021 but a court-mandated filing deadline (“call-up date”) of 06/25/2020 would input, "Application for Cancellation of Removal - 012345678 – 06/25/2020" in the subject line of the email. If the filer knows the hearing is scheduled before Judge William A. Jones, the subject would be, "Application for Cancellation of Removal - 012345678 - 06/25/2020 – WAJ."

PAGE LIMITS:

Effective immediately, for parties using a temporary email account to electronically file, supporting documentation/evidentiary filings are limited to fifty (50) pages in a particular case. If a party intends to file more than fifty (50) pages, the party must electronically file the Table of Contents and separately submit the supporting documentation/evidentiary filings with the original Table of Contents by using the U.S. mail or an overnight delivery service no later than the date set for filing the documents with the immigration court.

This order supersedes all prior Standing Orders of the Boston Immigration Court.

Jose A. Sanchez
U.S. Assistant Chief Immigration Judge
Boston Immigration Court

June 10, 2020