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April 2, 2020

**Insurance Client Alert  
Changes Due to COVID-19**

<b>RHODE ISLAND</b>			
<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Date of Order</b>	<b>Order Number</b>	<b>Content</b>
United States District for the District of Rhode Island (DRI)	March 9, 2020	N/A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Federal district courthouse and that portion of the Pastore building housing the magistrate judges and their staff are closed until further notice.</li> <li>2. All in person hearings are cancelled and will be held telephonically</li> <li>3. All jury trials, both civil and criminal, are continued.</li> <li>4. All permanent court employees shall telecommute and conduct their duties at the courthouse only as necessary.</li> <li>5. The order will be examined and revised as necessary; otherwise it remains in place. There are no dates set forth in the order making it self-vacating.</li> </ol>
Rhode Island Supreme and Superior Courts	March 17, 2020	N/A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The courthouses are closed to the public. Only judicial officers and essential court personnel as well as litigants and “other necessary parties” on certain enumerated “essential emergency matters” may enter the courthouses.</li> <li>2. Courts will use videoconferencing to conduct hearings whenever possible.</li> <li>3. All matters, including Superior Court jury trials, motion calendars and grand jury proceedings, are continued “until after April 17, 2020.”</li> <li>4. Only certain enumerated “Emergency/Essential” matters will be heard until after April 17, 2020.</li> <li>5. The following civil matters in the supreme and superior courts are deemed “Emergency/Essential” matters to be heard, likely via videoconference, during this period.                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Supreme Court—Emergency Petitions and Petitions for Extraordinary Relief;</li> <li>b. Superior Court—Extreme Risk Protective Orders, Temporary restraining order petitions</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. All payment and court imposed filing deadlines are continued to April 17.</li> <li>7. Requests for relief of limitations periods shall be entertained by individual judges after April 17, 2020.</li> </ol>

Neither the federal court nor the state court issued any order continuing or suspending case management orders so discovery activities, primarily depositions, have continued as before with the exception that videoconferencing and teleconferencing are being used to conduct depositions. In the state superior court, it appears that the filing deadline for supreme court appeals has not been affected. (20 days).

*Offices*

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