UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

TRANSITION OF COURT PROCEEDINGS TO ZOOM VIDEO PLATFORM

GENERAL ORDER 20-009

On March 17, 2020, due to the declaration of a pandemic/public health emergency by the World Health Organization, which was followed by the declaration of a State of Emergency in the State of Rhode Island by Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo, this Court issued <u>General</u> <u>Order 20-002</u>, transitioning all hearings and conferences to telephonic only. Since this time, to improve its remote operations due to the continuation of pandemic conditions within the State, the Court implemented the government-version Zoom video platform and is now ready to transition from telephonic to video court proceedings for both non-evidentiary and evidentiary matters.

Therefore, in order to limit exposure to the virus from indoor activities, the Court will continue to conduct court proceedings by remote means for the foreseeable future, but will transition its non-evidentiary court calendars from telephonic to video calendar proceedings, using the Zoom platform, beginning on **Wednesday**, **August 5**, **2020**. <u>An instructional document</u> for using the Zoom platform is posted on the <u>Court's website calendar page</u>, and individual training is also available upon request.

Evidentiary matters may be conducted either by video via the zoom platform or in person in the courtroom, depending on the needs of the parties and the court and the pandemic conditions in the State.

SO ORDERED.

Date: July 15, 2020

/s/ Diane Finkle United States Bankruptcy Court