



**State of South Carolina**  
**The Family Court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit**

**M. Scott Rankin**  
Judge

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Richland County Bar and Kershaw County Bar  
From: M. Scott Rankin  
Subject: Virtual Docket  
Date: February 15, 2022

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The South Carolina Judicial Branch has implemented new practices to combat the shortage of Court Reporters/Monitors. Any county which has 4 or more full terms of Family Court scheduled in a given week will be required to schedule one such docket using only WebEx/Virtual Courtroom.

This affects Richland County Family Court the following weeks through the end of the six-month calendar, and the judges assigned to the virtual dockets are as follows:

February 21, 2022 – Judge Monet S. Pincus  
February 28, 2022 – Judge Rosalyn Frierson-Smith  
March 7, 2022 – Judge M. Scott Rankin  
March 14, 2022 – Judge C. Vance Stricklin  
March 28, 2022 – Judge Gwendlyne Y. Jones  
April 4, 2022 – Judge C. Vance Stricklin  
April 11, 2022 – Judge Monet S. Pincus  
June 6, 2022 – Judge Michelle M. Hurley

If your case is scheduled during one of these terms of Court, then it may be converted to a virtual hearing without the benefit of court reporter/monitor, whereby the judges will be recording said hearings on their computer. You are required to review the online docket with Richland County in advance to see if your hearing is scheduled before the judge assigned to the virtual docket

during these weeks. Please continue to file all original documents and materials with the Clerk's office and be sure to check with the virtual judges for their specific preferences.

All of your Fifth Circuit Judges, as well as the Clerk's Office, are working diligently to avoid continuances of hearings on previously scheduled dockets, but undoubtedly we will experience some disruptions and we all must be flexible. I am hopeful that these changes are only temporary and that we will get back to normal scheduling soon. I appreciate everyone's continued cooperation during these challenging times.