

**Legal Alert: Housing Court Update During Pandemic**  
**May 1, 2020**

We hope everyone is continuing to stay safe and healthy. On April 30, 2020, an Order was issued by Judge Lawrence Marks, Chief Administrative Judge for the State of New York, which we find to be very encouraging and a sign that Housing Court is beginning to slowly reopen and get back to operating in a partial capacity.

Effective Monday, May 4, 2020, we will be permitted to electronically file new motions on pending Landlord-Tenant cases, responses to previously filed motions on such cases, other applications (i.e., post-judgment motions), and notices of appeal. This is great news as it will not only help move our cases closer to the resolution/eviction phase, but it also provides us with an opportunity to file Motions to Renew on applicable cases based upon our firm's recent victory in the Court of Appeals on the Matter of Regina Metropolitan Co., LLC v. New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal, et. al., which limited the retroactivity of the Housing Stability Tenant Protection Act in matters where a tenant has claimed rent overcharge.

These new filings will be in addition to the virtual arguments via Skype for Business, which our attorneys have already been partaking in since the pandemic closure. As you may recall, the arguments being held virtually are on motions that were fully briefed and submitted to the courts prior to their closings.

We are hopeful that this is the first step towards an eventual re-opening of the Courts. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the potential filing of a new motion on an existing case, please contact one of our attorneys at any time.