



NORTH CAROLINA INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

November 2021 Quarterly Update

Resumption of In-Person Deputy Commissioner and Full Commission Hearings Effective January 1, 2022

- As of January 1, 2022, Deputy Commissioner hearings will be conducted in-person, unless the presiding Deputy Commissioner grants a video conference hearing upon a showing of good cause as to why a remote hearing should be allowed. For in-person Deputy Commissioner hearings, the Commission will follow the COVID-19 safety protocols for the county courts where the hearing is held or the safety protocols of the building where the hearing is held, whichever are more restrictive, unless otherwise ordered by the presiding Deputy Commissioner. For information on a particular county, go to <https://www.nccourts.gov/locations> and then select the desired county.
- As of January 1, 2022, Full Commission hearings will be conducted in-person, unless the parties consent to a video conference hearing. To obtain a video conference hearing by consent, the parties shall make the appropriate election on the revised Joint Certification Form that is required to be returned to the Commission following receipt of the transcript and Form 44. If the parties were provided a Joint Certification Form that does not provide for electing a video conference hearing, the Commission will contact the parties to determine if the parties wish to elect a video conference hearing prior to scheduling. Should one party wish to appear remotely at an otherwise in-person hearing, that party may file a request with the hearing panel to appear via telephone. For in-person Full Commission hearings, the Commission will follow the COVID-19 safety protocols for Wake County courts, unless otherwise ordered by the Full Commission. For the current protocols, go to <https://www.nccourts.gov/locations/wake-county> and then select the most recent Order/Memo regarding COVID-19 protocols.

Revised Guidelines for In-Person Industrial Commission Hearings During COVID-19 Pandemic

- The Industrial Commission has revised its in-person hearing guidelines to reflect the most recent guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and to clarify that the Commission will follow the safety protocols for the county where the hearing is held or the building where the hearing is held, whichever are more restrictive, unless otherwise ordered by the presiding Deputy Commissioner. The revised in-person hearing guidelines can be found at <https://www.ic.nc.gov/In-Person%20Hearing%20Guidelines%209-30-21.pdf> and by clicking on the link to the guidelines on the Home and Latest News pages of the Commission's website.

New Case Management System Going Live in Early 2022

- The Industrial Commission's new case management system will go live for external users in early 2022. The Commission is excited to offer this improved, modernized, and user-friendly system to its external stakeholders.
- You can subscribe now to receive notification emails at <https://www.ic.nc.gov/SubscribeNCIC.html>. If you are already subscribed, you can forward this email with the subscription link to colleagues who may not already be subscribed. Periodic updates will be sent to the subscription list and posted on the Commission's website regarding the new system, its features, and training resources.
- When the new case management system goes live in 2022, simple and easy registration instructions will be available on the Commission's website. All external users will need to register for the new case management system once it goes live in 2022; Having an NCID Account to log into EDFP will not give you access to the new case management system.
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) with answers, plus other training materials, will be posted on the Commission's website before the new case management system goes live in 2022. This posting also will include contact information for Industrial Commission personnel who can answer your questions and help you get started. NCIC Updates subscribers will receive an email when new training materials are posted on the Commission's website.