Are You Kidding? We're still using Webex?

Magistrate Jamin Alabiso



When you received your first Order telling you that you would be appearing via Webex, did you feel like this?



Or this?



Or, if you're our associates, this?



Or, as judicial officer, this?

REMEMBER...



We're sort all experiencing the same thing . . .



But for some . . .



It has not been as fun!

None of us saw this coming!



None of us saw this coming!



None of us saw this coming!



But by now, we ought to be getting more comfortable



So let us share 10 thoughts on Webex hearings after 11 months

Views from the bench and a practitioner



Advocacy is alive and kicking!

A Few Basic Principles of Advocacy

- All advocates have a story to tell
- We use witnesses and exhibits to tell those stories
- Not every witness can tell the entire story
- Most witnesses have just pieces of the picture to share, even on Webex
- We are really painting by numbers . . .

As advocates, we must keep track of the colors!



Because if we don't . . .



Because if we don't . . .

- You must have the right web address
 You must have the right equipment
 You must have the right background
 You must have the right internet connection
- 5. You must be able to re-connect efficiently6. You must have a camera that works7. You must have a microphone that works

YOU must know how to join the hearing!

Thought #2 on Webex Hearings How do you know all of these things are working?



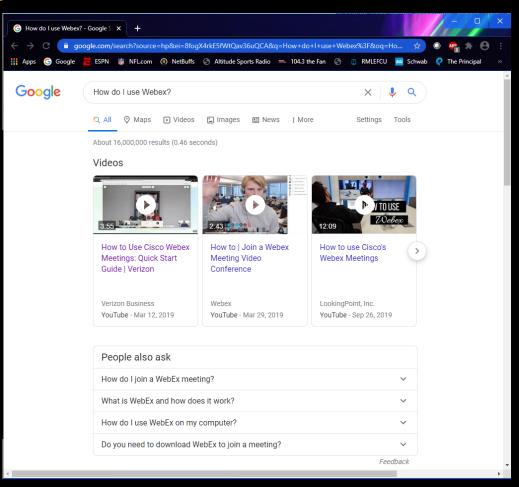
Know how to join the hearing!

She must have the right web address
 She must have the right equipment
 She must have the right background
 She must have the right internet connection
 She must be able to re-connect efficiently
 She must have a camera that works
 She must have a microphone that works

Your <u>client</u> must know how to join the hearing!

He must have the right web address
 He must have the right equipment
 He must have the right background
 He must have the right internet connection
 He must be able to re-connect efficiently
 He must have a camera that works
 He must have a microphone that works

Your <u>witness</u> must know how to join the hearing!



Learn how to use Webex!

And what about presenting our case?

Notebooks?

Do we deliver notebooks to the courthouse?

Our clients?

Witnesses?

Opposing counsel?

Are we going to try to share our screen?

Thought #5 on Webex Hearings Which to some is like rolling the dice!



Thought #5 on Webex Hearings So how do we get good at it?





Patience!

There is nothing quick about a Webex hearing



The judicial officer is . . . deliberate



There are delays because of technology



Participants lose connections



Someone cannot hear the speaker or be heard



Whatever the cause, you just have to roll with it



Talk about before hearing starts

Should you raise a hand?

Some other signal

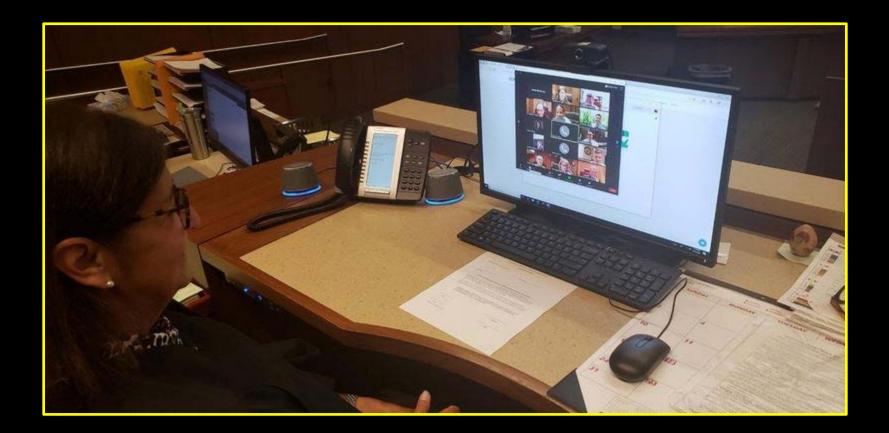
Should you just start speaking

The Court will appreciate a plan

Do you want to see the speaker take up your whole screen?

Or do you want to see everyone at once?

Can you see what people are looking at?



Are they with you?

Communication with your client

Can you text, e-mail or even call them?

Communication with your client

How do you manage the "I have to tell you this" client?

Communication with your client



Your Laundry List . . .

Your preparation

LAUNDRY LIST & BRILLIANT IDEAS

Make sure everyone has exhibits in usable for	CHECK
 Practice with your client – use Webex to do that! 	
a. Download Webex onto your device!	
4. Make sure you have access info on hand	
5. Turn sounds off on other electronics!	
6. Do you need a sign on your door?	
7. How does the Court want you to object?	
8. Do you know how to screen share?	
Do you understand limits of screen share?	
10. Does your computer let you use all Webex	
II. functions?	
12. The magic of bandwidth!	
13.	
14.	
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18.	
19.	
20.	

So what do you think?





We are here to tell you, you can do this! Very well! And when you do . . .

