

Executive Order No. 9A, which renews and extends any orders that were to expire September 9, 2020, or that were effective "for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency" or "for six months", now to November 9, 2020. The new numbering series will reflect those Executive Orders issued pursuant to the September 1<sup>st</sup> emergency declaration (which renewed the March 10<sup>th</sup> emergency declaration) and declared new public health and civil preparedness emergencies related to COVID-19. Any previous orders that had a specific end date will remain in effect until the specific end date noted in the initial executive order.

Executive Order 9A renews several important procedures in the Assessor's Office that had been previously adjusted by several of the Governor's prior Executive Orders.

1. **EO 7Z – Suspension of In-Person Attendance Requirement for Assessment Appeals.** Notwithstanding Section 12-113 of the Connecticut General Statutes or any other provision of law requiring in-person attendance by a property owner or such owner's attorney or agent, a board of assessment appeals may hold such meetings and obtain necessary information remotely by conference call, videoconference, electronic communication, or other technology and may reduce the valuation or assessment of property on the grand list without the physical presence of the owner of such property or such owner's attorney or agent, provided that such owner or such owner's attorney or agent participates remotely, and the hearing is conducted in accordance with open meeting requirements, as amended by Executive Order No. 7B.
2. **EO 7B Suspension of In-Person Open Meeting.** Sections 1-206, 1-225, and 1-226 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and any open meeting provision of any municipal charter, ordinance, or regulation that conflicts with this order, are suspended to the extent necessary to permit any public agency to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting or requiring in-person, public access to such meetings, and to hold such meetings or proceedings remotely by conference call, videoconference or other technology, provided that: 1) the public has the ability to view or listen to each meeting or proceeding in real time, by telephone, video, or other technology; 2) any such meeting or proceeding is recorded or transcribed, and such recording or transcript shall be posted on the agency's website within seven (7) days of the meeting or proceeding, and made available within a reasonable time in the agency's office; 3) the required notice and agenda for each meeting or proceeding is posted on the agency's website and shall include information about how the meeting will be conducted and how the public can access it; 4) any materials relevant to matters on the agenda, including but not limited to materials related to specific applications, if applicable, shall be submitted to the agency a minimum of twenty four (24) hours prior and posted to the agency's website for public inspection prior to, during, and after the meeting, and any exhibits to be submitted by members of the public shall, to the extent feasible, also be submitted to the agency a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting and posted to the

agency's website for public inspection prior to, during, and after the meeting; and 5) all speakers taking part in any such meeting or proceeding shall clearly state their name and title, if applicable, before speaking on each occasion that they speak.

3. **EO 7I - Extension of Municipal Deadlines and Waiver of Penalties Related to Municipal Planning, Assessment and Taxation.** The deadlines set forth under Sections 10-261a(c), 12-63c, 12-110, 12-111, 12-117, and 12-120, of the Connecticut General Statutes and Section 12-2b-11 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, for Net Grand Lists, Assessor Reports, Board of Assessment Appeals applications and decisions, Grand List of Taxable and Tax-Exempt Property, Sales Data Reports, and State Owned, College and Hospital Claim Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) reimbursement claims are extended without penalty. Additionally, the penalty provisions set forth under Sections 10-261b, 12-19a, and 12-20b of the Connecticut General Statutes are suspended.
4. **EO 7K Authorization of remote notarization: (Amended per Executive order 7Q).** Modifies state laws and regulations to permit any notarial act that is required under Connecticut law to be performed using an electronic device or process that allows a notary public and a remotely located individual to communicate with each other under certain conditions, including recording and live presentation of identification.
5. **Extended by EO 7ZZ-12 Authorization of remote notarization; Amended Procedures (see EO 7K).** The order eliminates all existing legal requirements to have a signature on any document witnessed by a third party, except in the case of a last will and testament. With respect to last wills and testaments, documents may now be witnessed remotely under the supervision of an attorney. In addition to removing witness requirements, any document required to be filed on the land records must contain a one-page certification, completed by a notary or commissioner of the Superior Court, reciting to the fact that the underlying document was executed pursuant to the executive order. The order also requires all town and city clerks to accept those documents for recording.