

STATE OF COLORADO  
7<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
DELTA, GUNNISON, HINSDALE, MONTROSE, OURAY & SAN MIGUEL COUNTIES

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**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2023-04 RE: 7<sup>th</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROCEDURES FOR RESIDENTIAL ACTIONS FILED IN COUNTY COURT PURSUANT TO COLORADO REVISED STATUTES, SECTION 13-40-113.5**

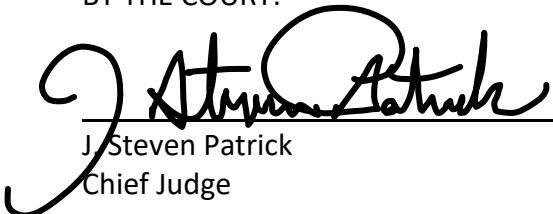
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Effective January 1, 2024, C.R.S. § 13-40-113.5 addresses residential actions in county court including, remote participation, electronic filing, procedures for technology failure and auxiliary service providers.

Section (1)(a) of C.R.S. § 13-40-113.5 states in relevant part, “The court shall allow either party and any witness to choose to appear in person or remotely by phone or video on a platform designated by the court at any return, conference, hearing, trial, or other court proceeding.” When filed in the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, Residential Actions or Forcible Entry and Detainer (“FED”) cases receive a return date on summons. Defendants must file an answer in person or by pro se e-filing on or before the return date on the summons. The return date is not a court proceeding, therefore the language of C.R.S. § 13-40-113.5(1)(a) requiring a remote phone or video appearance does not apply to a return date on summons in an FED case filed in the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District.

Dated this the 29th day of December 2023.

BY THE COURT:

  
J. Steven Patrick  
Chief Judge

XC: 7<sup>th</sup> JD Judges  
7<sup>th</sup> JD Clerks of Court