

# Court of Appeals of Ohio

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## Seventh Appellate District

[www.seventh.courts.state.oh.us](http://www.seventh.courts.state.oh.us)

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### PRESS RELEASE

The Seventh District Court of Appeals is excited to announce the return of in-person hearings at the Courthouse located at 131 West Federal Street in downtown Youngstown. In addition, the Court of Appeals invites the public to observe oral arguments remotely by using a hyperlink posted on the Court's website.

Over the past two years, the Court of Appeals balanced the health concerns of the COVID-19 pandemic with the essential services of the Court; utilizing the zoom platform to conduct oral argument hearings remotely for counsel and the judiciary. This created a unique opportunity to increase access to justice for the entire jurisdiction.

"We serve 8 counties at the Seventh District; some of those counties are located over two hours away from our Youngstown location. By providing a live link to our oral argument sessions, we can invite residents in each of our counties to observe these proceedings without imposing the burdens of travel," stated Presiding Judge Gene Donofrio.

The oral argument calendar is posted quarterly on the Court's website at [www.seventh.courts.state.oh.us](http://www.seventh.courts.state.oh.us) and the corresponding links to virtually watch the oral arguments are posted weekly for remote observers.

Judge Donofrio encourages counsel, parties and the public to take advantage of the remote viewing opportunity. "By opening the virtual doors to the Court of Appeals, we hope to provide a better understanding of the appellate process which is integral to the judicial system in Ohio."

The Seventh District Court of Appeals is one of twelve appellate districts in the State of Ohio. The following counties are within its jurisdiction: Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Harrison, Jefferson, Mahoning, Monroe and Noble.