

# How to Testify Virtually for Court



## Virtual court is still court.

**Note:** The rest of the How to Testify in Court suggestions still apply. Please review the How to Testify in Court brochure for more information.



- Speaking to a judge over video is the same as being in front of a judge in a courtroom.
- Practice using the technology before your court date.

## Make sure that you can:

- Connect to the internet with your device.
- See and hear on your device.

## Make sure others can:

- See and hear you.

## What should I do if I have problems with technology, or have questions about court procedures?

- Call the court before your hearing date.

What should I do if I have problems with technology during my hearing?

- Call the court right away so they know you are trying to be present.

## What should I do if I cannot use the internet while I am at home?

- Make a plan ahead of time to go somewhere private where you can connect to the internet.

## Before your hearing starts, you should:

- Choose a quiet room, away from distractions, so you can hear what is being said during your hearing.
- If possible, sit in front of a blank wall near a window.
- Be aware of what the judge might be able to see or hear in your background.
- Try to pick a comfortable place to sit in case your hearing is long.

## If you need to get up:

- Leave your device in the same place
- Make sure you can still hear it in case your case is called.
- Do not take your device with you if you need to use the restroom.
- Do not smoke, drink alcohol, or have loud conversations during a video hearing.
- Do not do anything during a virtual hearing that you would not do if you were physically present in court

## Who We Are

Legal Aid Society is Tennessee's largest non-profit law firm. Our mission is to enforce, advance, and defend the legal rights of low income and vulnerable people to obtain the basic necessities of life.

## Contact Us

We have eight offices in: Clarksville, Columbia, Cookeville, Gallatin, Murfreesboro, Nashville, Oak Ridge and Tullahoma.

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