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to madcm@googlegroups.com

Our court is beginning a probation track for domestic violence and related offenses that will include review hearings, by Zoom at least for now. Here is my question:

Under MCL 769.4a(6): “All court proceedings under this section must be open to the public. Except as provided in subsection (7), if the record of proceedings as to the defendant is deferred under this section, the record of proceedings during the period of deferral must be closed to public inspection.” Does this mean that if proceedings have been deferred under this statute, the review hearings during probation can be available by Zoom, but no record can be available later? Or does the second sentence mean that the review hearings should not be publicly available at all, even during probation? Or that the written file cannot be shared with the public at any time (with the exceptions under subsection (7))?

Sincerely,

Laura T. Rahe

District Court Administrator and Attorney Magistrate

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