LAWRENCE K. MARKS
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

JOHN W. MCCONNELL, ESQ. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NANCY J. BARRY, ESQ.
CHIEF OF OPERATIONS

## MEMORANDUM

April 5, 2021

TO: Hon. George Silver

Hon. Vito C. Caruso

FROM: Nancy Barry NB

RE: Virtual Evidence Courtrooms in Matrimonial Cases

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As you may recall, over the past few months a pilot program for submission of virtual evidence before and during virtual trials has been used in selected matrimonial cases in New York, Kings, Westchester, and Ontario counties. This program was designed by our NYSCEF team at the Division of Technology, in close coordination with the Hon. Jeffrey Sunshine, Statewide Coordinating Judge for Matrimonial Cases, and Jeff Carucci, Statewide Coordinator for Electronic Filing.

I am pleased to report that, effective today, the pilot program is being expanded to include all contested matrimonial matters filed through NYSCEF throughout the State. Moreover, the program now includes a Virtual Evidence Courtroom (VEC) module, by which documents can be submitted to the court and parties for trial use through a NYSCEF-based system in both fully remote and hybrid trial settings. Instructions on this new system, including a video recording for court users, can be found at the NYSCEF website at <a href="www.nycourts.gov/efile">www.nycourts.gov/efile</a>. Although currently a case must be filed through NYSCEF to use this platform, we anticipate that it will be more broadly available in the future for matters that are not electronically filed.

Please distribute this memorandum further as you deem appropriate. Questions on this subject can be directed to Justice Sunshine (<u>jsunshin@nycourts.gov</u>). Questions regarding the NYSCEF-based aspects of the program can be directed to <u>NYSCEF@nycourts.gov</u>. As always, thank you for your kind assistance.

c: Hon. Lawrence K. Marks Hon. Edwina G. Mendelson

Hon. Jeffrey S. Sunshine

County Clerks

Scott Murphy

Linda Dunlap-Miller

Michelle Smith

Jeffrey Carucci

Susan Kaufman

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The instructions may be accessed by selecting the "Virtual Evidence Courtroom" link located under the Help menu at the top right side of the home page.