

FILED

08/04/2020

Bowen Greenwood  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

Case Number: AF 06-0263

ORIGINAL

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

No. AF 06-0263

IN THE MATTER OF THE COURTS OF  
LIMITED JURISDICTION

ORDER  
FILED

AUG 04 2020

Bowen Greenwood  
Clerk of Supreme Court

The Montana Supreme Court's Commission on Courts of Limited Jurisdiction met on July 13, 2020. The Commission discussed the statutorily mandated biannual training conference for limited jurisdiction judges, scheduled for September 22-24, 2020, in light of the ongoing COVID 19 Pandemic and governmental responses. The Commission determined that it was prudent under current protocols to conduct the fall training conference by videoconference.

Sections 3-10-203(3) and 3-11-204(2), MCA, do not expressly mandate that training conferences be conducted in person, but reference costs incurred for travel and in-person attendance. Thus, the Commission seeks direction and leave for a one-time departure from the practice of conducting an in-person training conference, and to conduct the training by videoconference. Under these statutes, the Supreme Court may waive the attendance of limited jurisdiction judges at training sessions for good cause. Therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the semi-annual limited jurisdiction judges training, scheduled for September 22-24, 2020, shall be conducted by videoconference.

The Clerk is directed to provide copies of this Order to the Supreme Court's Commission on Courts of Limited Jurisdiction and to the State Bar of Montana.

DATED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.



Chief Justice

*Jim Rice*  
*Lance*  
*Jim Fitch*  
*Pete Folan*  
*Luigi Nisticò*  
*John M. Sullivan*  
Justices