

COVID-19 and FINRA Arbitrations - FINRA Announcement on Postponements

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Due to COVID-19, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority said Monday that it has postponed all in-person arbitration and mediation proceedings scheduled through July 3.

Parties that have an in-person hearing or mediation session scheduled through this date will be contacted by FINRA staff to reschedule or discuss remote scheduling options. Previously, in-person proceedings were postponed through May 31.

The proceedings can be held by Zoom or teleconference meetings, but both parties have to agree or such a meeting has to be ordered by a FINRA arbitration panel, according to FINRA. "These services provide high-quality, secure, user-friendly options for conducting video and telephonic hearings and sharing documents remotely," FINRA said.

"All case deadlines will continue to apply and must be timely met unless the parties jointly agree otherwise," FINRA states. "We recognize that this decision may cause inconvenience and we do not make it lightly."

FINRA also announced that it will waive postponement fees when parties stipulate to adjourn in-person hearing dates scheduled from July 6 through Sept. 4.

Please contact **Robert Rabinowitz, Esq., Brian C. Daughney, Esq., Sarah Klein, Esq.** or your regular Becker contact with any questions on these or related topics.

For more information and insights, please visit <http://beckerCOVID19-nj.com/>.