

**COMMISSION TO REIMAGINE THE FUTURE  
OF NEW YORK COURTS**

*Henry M. Greenberg, Chairman*

**PANDEMIC PRACTICES WORKING GROUP (PPWG)**

*Hon. Craig J. Doran, Chair*

**PPWG Hearing Subcommittee**

*Scott Reents and William C. Silverman, Co-Chairs*

**PANDEMIC PRACTICE WORKING GROUP  
Mission Statement**

**PPWG SCOPE/MISSION:** To conduct a thorough, multi-dimensional review and evaluation of court practices and protocols implemented in New York State Courts during the COVID-19 pandemic, considering, among other factors, impact upon efficiency and access to justice.

**PPWG OBJECTIVES:** The creation of a comprehensive report for submission to the Commission, and ultimately to the Chief Judge, containing the PPWG Working Group's findings regarding the efficacy of measures implemented, together with recommendations regarding:

- which measures should be carried forth post-COVID and made part of permanent court practice/procedure, including what mechanisms would be appropriate for implementation, such as legislation, rule change, policy/practice guidelines, deployment of resources, etc.
  
- which measures should be appropriately memorialized for use in future instances where court operations are significantly impacted by disruptive events like COVID.

**PPWG METHODS:** The work is expected to include a review of existing surveys, data, and reports, inside and outside of New York State, together with the solicitation of input from the legal community including, but not be limited to, court users, practitioners, judges, UCS personnel, community groups, associations and other government and non-government stakeholders. This input will be collected through written submissions as well as a series of virtual and "in person" public hearings statewide.