



Justice in Every Borough.

**My case was started *after* March 17, 2020**

New eviction cases (nonpayment or holdover) filed by mail or electronically after March 17, 2020 cannot — for now — result in entry of a default judgment and issuance of a warrant of eviction, unless the party files or submits an answer, or otherwise appears. The housing court is supposed to permit tenants/respondents to answer petitions and appear remotely (via telephone or virtual teleconference).

Tenants/respondents have extra time to respond to eviction petitions without being defaulted and subject to eviction because they did not timely answer the petition. Notices of petition are required to advise tenants/occupants that they have extra time to answer or respond and appear, and must inform respondents how they can seek free legal services. Housing court judges will also refer unrepresented parties to legal service providers for representation.