

PRACTICAL STEPS TO HELP MINIMIZE RISK



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The global coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak is changing the way we all are operating daily. To help we've gathered some best practices to help you navigate the issue and take practical steps to minimize risk.

REVIEW YOUR OPERATIONS WITH A CRITICAL EYE



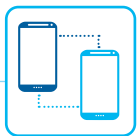
Limit face-to-face interactions. Phrases like “self quarantine” and “social distancing” have come to the forefront as recommended measures to help limit the spread of the virus. Bottom-line, if you can reduce opportunities to interact in-person with others you can reduce exposure to the virus.



Reduce interior crowding. The CDC and NIH both recommend avoiding crowds, especially in poorly ventilated spaces. Many agency waiting rooms are prime examples. Where possible, limit crowding by reducing the number of in-house appointments, spacing chairs in waiting rooms at least 6 feet apart, and by asking people to wait outside or in courtyards instead of in contained spaces.



Help clients limit their risk. Develop alternate supervision options to help your clients avoid high-risk situations including crowded meeting rooms, long waiting lines, the need for public and shared transportation, and large gatherings of people.



USE TECHNOLOGY TO KEEP YOUR AGENCY, CLIENTS, AND THE COMMUNITY SAFE

Provide clients alternative supervision opportunities. Use video and audio calling services (like FaceTime and Snapchat) as alternatives for face-to-face interactions for client contacts, home visits, and curfew checks.



Enable clients to “attend” required group meetings and counseling sessions via meeting apps. Use video conferencing tools like Zoom or Gotomeeting to support virtual individual or group settings.



Adopt mobile apps that help supplement in-person meetings, reinforce objectives, provide positive reinforcement, track compliance, limit use of public transportation, and reduce crowds in waiting rooms.

As a reference, a mobile app that can help you is cFive Catalyst.

Info here: <https://www.cfive.com/products/catalyst/>

COVID-19 Information & Resources: <https://www.cfive.com/probation-coronavirus-resources/>