

**DAVID SHOEMAKE, CHANCELLOR
POST ONE
CHANGE IN SETTING CASES ON THE DOCKET**

EFFECTIVE MAY 23, 2022

Attorneys:

When I set the rule of no more than one contested issue on the docket per day per attorney, it was to make court more efficient. Some attorneys were setting multiple cases and trying to negotiate each case on the same day. This was causing opposing attorneys, clients and witnesses to sit all day and wait on their turn for conference or to negotiate their case in an attempt to settle prior to the hearing that was scheduled.

I am going to change the rule of no more than one contested matter per attorney per day and allow each attorney to set as many cases and/or issues as they would like per day. The only exception to this is that there will be only **one final trial set per attorney per day**. I will still require a pretrial conference with a completed pre-trial order prior to setting a final trial date. I highly encourage all negotiations and attempts to settle the case be done on that day or at least prior to the trial date. In order to streamline court proceedings and operate an efficient court, I am going to have Donna Walker, my Court Administrator, call a day or two prior to a scheduled final trial and confirm if the case is set to go to trial. If the case that is set first up is scheduled to go forward, I intend to have Donna email everyone involved in the cases that are second up, etc. and let them know so they can reschedule their trial date. This is to prevent needless appearances by attorneys, witnesses, and litigants.

If there are matters other than a final trial set on the dates that have a final trial that is going, they will be completed no later than 10:30a.m. and trial will start promptly at 10:30a.m.

With regard to temporary hearings - again, I highly encourage the attorneys to reach out to each other **prior** to the hearing date in an attempt to get all or most of the issues resolved. I intend to start calling the temporary hearings in the order in which they are set as soon as I have finished all of the requested conferences. Each attorney should know their file well enough to answer basic questions. The way temporary hearings will be conducted is that I will call the attorneys and their clients up to the podium and allow each attorney starting with plaintiff's counsel (without interruption from the opposing attorney or client) 5 minutes to state their side of the case. I will then allow the defendant's attorney to state their side of the case. I will then ask questions to fill in any gaps or answer any questions that I may have. I will then issue my temporary ruling.

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