

EATON COUNTY TRIAL COURTS

56TH CIRCUIT COURT
EATON COUNTY PROBATE COURT
56A DISTRICT COURT

HON. THOMAS K. BYERLEY
CHIEF JUDGE
PROBATE COURT JUDGE

HON. JANICE K. CUNNINGHAM
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

HON. JEFFREY L. SAUTER
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

HON. HARVEY J. HOFFMAN
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

HON. JULIE H. REINCKE
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

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BERYL J. FRENGER
TRIAL COURTS ADMINISTRATOR

AMY M. ETZEL
DEPUTY TRIAL COURTS
ADMINISTRATOR

CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER C56 2015-03J

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER D56 2015-06J

PROBATE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER P23 2015-02J

Rescinds Local Administrative Order [C56 2011-01J]

Rescinds Local Administrative Order [D56 2011-04].

Rescinds Local Administrative Order [P23 2011-01J]

CASEFLOW MANAGEMENT PLAN

IT IS ORDERED:

This administrative order is issued in accordance with Michigan Supreme Court Administrative Order 2013-12.

A. Goals of the Court

The court adopts the following Caseflow Management Plan to:

1. Expedite the disposition of all cases in a manner consistent with fairness to all parties and what is permissible under law;
2. Minimize the uncertainties associated with processing cases;
3. Ensure equal access to the adjudicative process for all litigants.

B. Case Processing Time Guidelines

The court adopts this plan to comply with the time guidelines as set forth in Administrative Order 2013-12. The court will not dismiss a case for the sole reason that it is likely to exceed the guideline.

C. Scheduling Policy

The court will schedule all cases or contested matters in a manner that minimizes delay for the parties and that reduces the possibility of adjournment of scheduled events. The court will control all cases from case initiation through post-disposition proceedings by:

1. Appropriate case screening;
2. Scheduling conferences and orders for the purpose of achieving date certainty;
3. Management of discovery and motion practice;
4. Realistic scheduling of all court events.

The court will monitor all cases and contested matters to ensure that no case exists for which a future action or review date has not been scheduled. The court will schedule all cases pursuant to the time guidelines set forth in Administrative Order 2013-12. The court will not permit a case or contested matter to remain on this court's docket in excess of the guidelines set forth in this local administrative order without immediate judicial review.

D. Adjournment Policy

The court strictly adheres to MCR 2.503.

E. Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

The court encourages alternative means to resolve disputes. Litigants will be provided with information regarding area dispute resolution and counseling centers. Cases referred to ADR shall remain open.

F. Pretrial Scheduling Orders

The court provides pretrial notices and scheduling orders to establish dates certain for events in cases; such as the next scheduled action, deadlines for Discovery and Dispositive Motions, and Trial Dates.

G. Settlement or Final Pretrial Conferences

Every action that is not disposed of through mediation, case evaluation, or other means, will be scheduled for a settlement conference in accordance with MCR 2.401.

H. Trial Scheduling and Management

Trial dates are set in accordance with a schedule established by the Court. Probable cause conferences are set not less than 7 days or more than 14 days after arraignment and preliminary examinations are set not less than 5 days or more than 7 days following the probable cause conference. Upon appropriate notice, the court within 5 days, shall provide a trial date..

I. Monitoring Systems

The court's case management system will:

1. Monitor case progress;
2. Generate reports for measuring pending inventory and measuring compliance with the time guidelines.

Specific reports that will be available from the case management system are: cases with no next action date, age of pending cases, number of cases pending beyond time standards by judge, age of cases at each event, age of cases at disposition, time intervals between events, and exception reports.

Date: 10-6-15



Hon. Thomas K. Byerley (P28937)
CHIEF JUDGE