

# HONORABLE KENT COMPTON

## Judicial Practice Preferences Civil Court

**1. DEPOSTION DISPUTES:**

NEED SCHEDULED HEARING

**2. UNIFORM MOTION CALENDAR:**

NOT USED

**3. UNIFORM MOTION CALENDAR PREFERENCE:**

NOT USED

**4. TELEPHONIC HEARINGS:**

- a. MUST be forth in the notice of hearing.
- b. An attorney may attend in person
- c. Evidentiary matters WILL be considered.
- d. Does NOT allow telephonic hearings of small claims pre-trials

**5. PROPOSED ORDERS:**

- a. Can forward to the court and copy opposing counsel for any objections within 5-7 days.

**6. DISCOVERY CUT-OFF:**

- a. Case by case basis

**7. PRETRIAL STATEMENTS:**

- a. No particular form required, so long as statement of facts, intended evidence and expected witnesses are listed.

**8. MOTION IN LIMINE:**

- a. To be scheduled as a separate hearing.

**9. TRIAL SCHEDULING FOR COUNTY CIVIL CASES:**

When filing a "Notice of Readiness for Trial", you must file the original with the Clerk of Court and deliver a copy of the Notice to the Court. Please inform the Court of the amount of time needed for trial and whether jury trial has been demanded. Upon receipt of your Notice for Trial the case will be ordered to Mediation. In addition, you will electronically receive an Order Setting Pretrial Deadlines, Pretrial Conference and Trial Dates. Please read the order thoroughly as it contains very important information and deadlines. We understand and expect that many cases will settle after placement on a trial docket. If your case does resolve, please call my Judicial Assistant as soon as possible. Failure to attend pretrial conferences may result in a dismissal of the case.

**10. VOIR DIRE FORMAT:**

- a. Entire panel questioned in the gallery.

**11. VOIR DIRE:**

- a. Judge Compton may initiate voir dire questions to be followed by counsel.

**12. PEREMPTORY CHALLENGES:**

- a. Generally 3 per party with total of Plaintiff to match total of Defense.

**13. RESPONSE FROM COUNSEL WHEN BAILIFF BRINGS JURY IN:**

- a. No preference.

**14. COURTROOM TRIALS- REQUEST PERMISSION FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

- a. To approach the bench.
- b. To approach the witness.

**15. MOTION FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES AND TAX COSTS:**

Attorneys must send a copy of their Motion to Tax Costs and Award Attorney's Fees to the Judge's office. Once received, the Judge will electronically enter an Order Preliminary to hearing. Once the attorneys comply with the Preliminary Order and are ready for a special set hearing, the moving attorney must contact the Judicial Assistant to obtain a special set hearing time. However, the Court will not enter its Order Preliminary unless there is a Final Judgment, Stipulation for Dismissal, etc., entered in the case. Fee affidavits are sufficient in lieu of expert testimony IF parties agree.

**16. SHOWING TANGIBLE EVIDENCE TO THE COURT:**

- a. If Judge Compton requests exhibit, counsel may hand it over directly. After showing opposing counsel, attorney may show exhibit to witness without showing Judge first.

**17. MEDIATION:**

- a. ALWAYS required before trial.

**18. COURTROOM DEMEANOR COMMENTS:**

- a. Objections- stand and state ground of objection. Do not argue objection unless asked to come to the bench.
- b. NEVER argue with opposing counsel.
- c. Direct all arguments to the Court.

**19. OTHER PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE POINTERS:**

- a. If a case has SETTLED, please call my office to cancel any hearings or trials that may be scheduled.
- b. After you have obtained potential hearing time(s), please call back to confirm the date and time with my Judicial Assistant to have the case set on my calendar. Please don't just send in a notice.