

**KENT COMPTON**  
*County Judge*



**KRISTI KERSEY**  
*Judicial Assistant*

## **Judicial Practice Preferences Civil Court**

**1. TO SCHEDULE HEARINGS:**

Please schedule all hearings in JAWS, "Section 12/13/D/T/R/V-Judge Compton" calendar.

Hearings set for 15 minutes or less may be set via Zoom or in-person. All other hearings are to be set in-person.

Mass dockets for Civil Traffic Infractions and Small Claims Proceedings are all in-person hearings.

In-person hearings will occur at the Robert D. Sumner Judicial Center, 38053 Live Oak Avenue, Dade City, Florida 33523.

Hearings set for 15 minutes may be scheduled directly online. For hearings which require additional time, adjacent hearing time slots may be combined to create the amount of time required provided you first e-mail the JA to create the time slot prior to scheduling your hearing.

Once a hearing is requested and approved in JAWS, the JA will e-mail a JAWS notification with the Zoom meeting ID and password participation code. This information should be included in the notice of hearing.

It is the moving party's responsibility to confirm that all counsel/associated parties are in the JAWS database to ensure all parties receive e-mails regarding the scheduling and cancelation of hearings.

**2. EVIDENCE:**

Any proposed evidence must be provided to the Court in a hard copy format. The Court does not accept or print electronic filings for evidence.

**3. SUBMITTING PROPOSED ORDERS:**

Please submit proposed orders in "PDF", directed to Judge Compton, via the JAWS portal. It is important to make sure that all associated party e-mails are connected to the case in order for everyone to receive a conformed copy of the order. In the event you do not have a pro se litigant's e-mail, the conformed copy and attachments, such as the fact information sheet, need to be mailed and a follow up certificate of service should be filed through the e-portal.

**4. MOTIONS DECIDED ON WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS**

Motions that may be ruled on based on written submissions include, but are not limited to Motions to Strike, Motions to Compel, Motions to Dismiss, Motions to Take Judicial Notice, Motions to Stay, Motions to Reschedule Mortgage Foreclosure Sale, Motions for Continuance, and Motions for Disqualification. Motions for Summary Judgment may not be decided via the written submissions procedure. Please see Administrative Order 2020-012 and Administrative Order 2020-011 for sample forms as to correspondence, notice and a proposed order.

**5. ORDER SETTING JURY TRIAL AND PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE:**

See Administrative Order 2019-025 for detailed procedures.

**6. VOIR DIRE FORMAT:**

Entire panel questioned in the gallery.

**7. VOIR DIRE:**

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

**8. PEREMPTORY CHALLENGES:**

Generally three (3) per party with total of Plaintiff to match total of Defense.

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

No preference.

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

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

**11. 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 schedule this in JAWS. 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.

**12. MEDIATION:**

ALWAYS required before trial.

**13. 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.

**14. OTHER PRACTICE AND PROCEDURES:**

- a. If a case has SETTLED, please call or email my office to cancel any hearings or trials that may be scheduled.
- b. Email address is [cocive2@jud6.org](mailto:cocive2@jud6.org).

updated 07/1/2021