



Judge B. Chris Christenson Policies & Procedures

Judicial Administrative Secretary	Bridget Ondocsin
Judicial Advisory Assistant	Alexis Atkins
Courtroom Location	5 th floor Room 501
Phone	810.257.3262
Domestic Court Clerk	810-768-7927 Miller, Jennifer JMiller2@co.geneseee.mi.us
Juvenile Court Clerk	810-257-3510 Johnson, Karima

Judicial Procedures and Practice Information

Domestic Cases

Motion Policy	Judge's Copies: Judge's copies are required on ALL motions consistent with MCR 2.119(A) (2) (d). Failure to do so may result in delay, waiver of oral arguments, or assessment of fees. Judge's copies should be hand delivered or mailed directly to the Judge's Office, room 501.
Motion Adjournment Policy	Moving party may adjourn a motion up to two times without re-filing. Contact the judicial office or the Court Clerk in advance or by the end of the day the motion is scheduled.
Motion Day Schedule Hearings	8:30 a.m. Judgments, Name Changes & Emancipation **Please contact the Judge's Secretary to schedule a Pro-Con Hearing (Consent or Stipulated Judgments/Orders only) 9:00 a.m. PPO's 9:30 a.m. Show Cause Hearings by Order only 10:00 a.m. Referee Objection Hearings 10:30 a.m. Best Interest Hearings & Motions by FOC 1:30 p.m. Temp. Motions & Motions for Show Cause Hearings
Statutory Waiting Period	The Court will consider Motions requesting waiver of the statutory waiting period on a case-by-case basis.
Scheduling Orders	Scheduling Orders will be provided to the parties or to the counsel for the parties and all terms will be enforced. Adjournment of the Mandatory Settlement Conference &/or Trial dates do not affect the deadlines unless specifically stated.

Mandatory Settlement Conference Tuesday Afternoon – Appearance by ZOOM.
Counsel and parties must appear. The date will be scheduled approximately 60 days before the trial date.

At the time of the Mandatory Settlement Conference, the court expects that the parties will have completed discovery and exchanged proposed judgments. The parties are permitted to mediate on their own and the Court reserves the right to order mediation.

Adjournments: for good cause only. A Stipulated Order must be provided, in advance, and must state the party requesting the adjournment and the reason why.

Non-Jury Trials

Wednesday – Friday of the Domestic Term Schedule
Includes evidentiary hearings on post-judgment issues and de novo hearings on referee recommendations. Parties and Counsel must appear. The parties must exhaust all efforts to negotiate a settlement before the Court will begin a trial. Domestic cases with child related issues will be given scheduling priority.

Adjournments: for good cause only. A Stipulated Order must be provided, in advance, and must state the party requesting the adjournment and the reason why.

Ex Parte Orders

Ex Parte Orders will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Orders must be accompanied by a Motion and comply with court rules prior to the Court considering relief requested.

FOC Bench Warrant Arraignments Tuesday, 3:00 p.m.

Juvenile Cases

Child Protective Proceedings and Delinquency Petitions

Contested Pre-Trials and Motions	Tuesdays: Child Protective Proceedings	9:00 a.m.
	Delinquency Petitions	9:00 a.m.

Trials	Wednesday -Friday of the Juvenile Term
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