

**Superior Court of California  
County of Orange  
Lamoreaux Justice Center**

**Hon. Lee L. Gabriel, Dept. L72**

Phone: 657-622-5572

**MANDATORY TRIAL/ EVIDENTIARY HEARING  
STANDING ORDERS<sup>1</sup>**

Effective 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022

No later than 5 court days before the Trial or a specially set Evidentiary Hearing ALL ATTORNEYS AND SELF-REPRESENTED PARTIES are required to:

1. Participate in at least one meaningful MEET AND CONFER CONFERENCE to discuss all undisputed issues and facts and disputed issues and facts, including each party's proposed findings on each disputed issue.
2. For all undisputed issues and facts, the parties are to submit a stipulation or offer a stipulation to the Court at the start of the hearing or trial.
3. For all disputed issues and facts, pursuant to Orange County Superior Court Local Rule 709, the parties are to prepare and file a Joint Statement of Disputed Issues. Exemplar templates are attached for some of the more common family law issues.<sup>2</sup>

NOTE: The attached templates are not meant to be applicable to all cases and all issues. Self-represented parties or counsel are expected to modify each applicable template to the facts and circumstances of their case keeping in mind the purpose of the Joint Statement is to make an offer of proof on each disputed issue.

If agreed, the Joint Statements can be received in evidence for judicial economy subject to cross-examination and/or argument.

The Joint Statement must be signed by all counsel or self-represented parties.

4. For all financial issues, pursuant to Orange County Superior Court Local Rule 702, the parties shall update and serve on each other the following:

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<sup>1</sup> This standing order applies to all cases assigned to Judge Lee L. Gabriel.

<sup>2</sup> CEB Essential Form (L-0966) "Joint Statement of Issues to Be Tried" will not be accepted.

- (a) Current Income & Expense Declarations (FL-150) including all required attachments;
  - (b) The last two most recent tax returns, including personal and corporate, if applicable;
  - (c) An attorney's fees declaration and all billing invoices, if applicable.
5. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the parties are ordered to file a List of Witnesses, including a short statement of anticipated testimony and time estimates for direct and cross examination in [the](#) format attached.
6. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the parties are ordered to file a List of Exhibits in the format attached.  
At least 5 court days prior to the trial or evidentiary hearing the parties shall upload exhibits using the **Electronic Evidence Portal** located on the Orange County Superior Court website.  
To access the **Electronic Evidence Portal**, follow these instructions:
- (a) On the Orange County Superior Court website, click on "Online Service" at the top of the page.
  - (b) On the dropdown menu, click on "Electronic Evidence Portal."
  - (c) Read and follow the instructions on that page before clicking on the blue box "[Click Here to Access the Portal.](#)"
  - (d) When prompted to add the "hearing date," use the **TRIAL DATE**.
  - (e) Do not upload to the evidence portal documents like stipulations, witness lists, trial briefs, or other pleadings.
  - (f) **Only upload documents intended to be used as evidence at the trial or evidentiary hearing.**
  - (g) Once exhibits are uploaded, the application will allow the party to view, print or download an exhibit list created by the application.
7. Parties are invited, but not required to submit trial or hearing briefs with a memorandum of points and authorities on unique or novel legal issues.
8. Any violation of and/or failure to comply with these rules may result in the Court continuing the matter or vacating the trial/hearing date and/or issuing sanctions.<sup>3</sup>

Dated: 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022