

**ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULES FOR  
24<sup>TH</sup>, 135<sup>TH</sup>, 267<sup>TH</sup> AND 377<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT COURTS**

The Court judicially notices §III (14) of The Texas Lawyers Creed which provides:

“I will not arbitrarily schedule a deposition, court appearance, or hearing until a good faith effort has been made to schedule it by agreement.”

In order that the local rules of the 24<sup>th</sup>, 135<sup>th</sup>, 267<sup>th</sup> and 377<sup>th</sup> District Courts promote the goals of the Texas Lawyers Creed, it is ORDERED that Rule 1.14 and Rule 1.15 are amended as follows:

Rule 1.14 Request for Settings – Motions Hearings and Non-Jury Cases

Motions hearings, other than show cause hearings incident to temporary restraining orders or hearings incident to initial filings in suits for dissolution of marriage or suits affecting the parent child relationship, and non-jury cases shall be set for hearing or trial upon request to the Court Coordinator. Requests shall be by e-mail or written. A copy of the request must be contemporaneously delivered to counsel for all parties in the case in the same manner as the request is tendered to the Court Coordinator. The request shall certify that the requesting party's attorney has conferred with counsel for all parties and the hearing date requested is agreed upon by all counsel.

In the event the requested setting is not agreed upon by all parties, the request for setting shall certify that the attorney for the requesting party has discussed the requested setting date with counsel for each party and, after good faith effort to reach agreement, the attorneys have been unable to mutually agree upon a setting date. Upon receipt of a non-agreed request for

setting the Court shall determine a date for a telephonic or in chambers docket control conference for the limited purpose of establishing a hearing date. The Court shall set the date and time of the docket control conference. The Court Coordinator shall notify all parties of the date, time and place of the docket control conference. Attorneys for each party shall participate in said docket control conference by personal attendance or by telephone. Following the docket control conference, the Court shall set a date for hearing or trial of the matter in question. The provisions of this rule are applicable to and binding on self represented litigants. Notices and conferences contemplated by this rule shall be directed to and conducted directly with each self represented litigant.

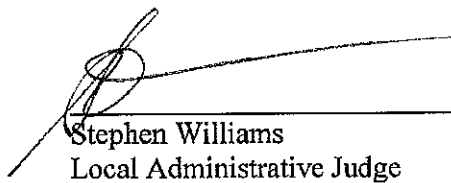
Rule 1.15 Request for Settings – Jury Cases – Jury trials shall be set for trial upon request to the Court Coordinator. Requests shall be by e-mail or written. A copy of the request must be contemporaneously delivered to counsel for all parties in the case in the same manner as the request is tendered to the Court Coordinator. The request shall certify that the requesting party's attorney has conferred with counsel for all parties and the trial date requested is agreed upon by all counsel.

In the event the requested setting is not agreed upon by all parties, the request for setting shall certify that the attorney for the requesting party has discussed the requested setting date with counsel for each party and, after good faith effort to reach agreement, the attorneys have been unable to mutually agree upon a trial date. Upon receipt of a non-agreed request for setting the Court shall determine a date for a telephonic or in chambers docket control conference for the limited purpose of establishing a trial date. The Court shall set the date and time of the docket control conference. The Court Coordinator shall notify all parties of the date, time and place of the docket control conference. Attorneys for each party shall participate in said docket control

conference by personal attendance or by telephone. Following the docket control conference, the Court shall set a date for trial of the matter in question. The provisions of this rule are applicable to and binding on self represented litigants. Notices and conferences contemplated by this rule shall be directed to and conducted directly with each self represented litigant.

These amendments are effective immediately.

Signed December 31, 2014.



Stephen Williams  
Local Administrative Judge