

# PROCEDURE FOR CIVIL JURY TRIALS DISTRICT COURT, DEPT VII

## Audio Visual Equipment

The courtroom is equipped with an ELMO and television monitor for attorney use. The courtroom also has Clickshare for wireless connection with laptop computers. The annotate feature on the witness monitor works only with Clickshare, not with the ELMO. Any additional equipment brought in by counsel must work in the available court space without blocking the view of the judge, jury, or opposing counsel. If you plan to admit a DVD or audio recording you must provide a way for the jury to view the exhibit during deliberation. Please schedule a time to meet with the Court's Recorder prior to the start of trial if you intent to display any PowerPoints, video footage, or audio recordings. Laptops should have privacy screens. Make sure to have a paper back-up of any PowerPoint slides or other electronic presentations. Trial will not be delayed for equipment failure, and the court prefers to enter copies of PowerPoints as court exhibits. You can reach the Court Recorder at [RayS@clarkcountycourts.us](mailto:RayS@clarkcountycourts.us).

## Depositions

All original depositions anticipated to be used in any manner during the trial must be delivered to the clerk prior to the Calendar Call. If deposition testimony is anticipated to be used in lieu of live testimony, a designation (by page/line citation) of the portions of the testimony to be offered must be filed and served by facsimile or hand, two (2) judicial days prior to the Calendar Call. Any objections or counterdesignations (by page/line citation) of testimony must be filed and served by facsimile or hand, one (1) judicial day prior to the Calendar Call commencement. Counsel shall advise the clerk prior to publication.

## Exhibits

In accordance with EDCR 2.67, counsel shall meet, review, and discuss exhibits prior to the Calendar Call and prior to the filing of the joint pretrial memorandum not less than 15 days prior to trial. All exhibits must comply with EDCR 2.27. Three (3) sets must be three-hole punched placed in three ring binders along with the exhibit list. The sets must be delivered to the clerk at least 3 days prior to the commencement of trial. Any demonstrative exhibits including exemplars anticipated to be used must be disclosed prior to the calendar call. Pursuant to EDCR 2.68, at the Calendar Call, counsel shall be prepared to stipulate or make specific objections to individual proposed exhibits.

## Jury Notebook

In accordance with EDCR 2.67, counsel shall meet, review, and discuss items to be included in the Jury Notebook. Pursuant to EDCR 2.68, at the Calendar Call, counsel shall be prepared to stipulate or make specific objections to items to be included in the Jury Notebook.

## Jury Selection

Department 7 uses a modified "Arizona Method" of jury selection. After general questions are asked of all prospective jurors by the Court, jurors are questioned individually by the Judge, plaintiff's attorney and defense attorney. After all jurors have been passed for cause, counsel will exercise peremptory challenges by writing the juror number on a form. Waiving one challenge does not mean waiving all challenges.

## Jury Questionnaire

Department 7 requires all requests for jury questionnaires be done by Stipulation and Order and must be filed at least six (6) weeks in advance of the trial date. If counsel is not in agreement, a motion must be filed and the Court will consider on a case by case basis, but generally is not inclined to permit jury questionnaires. The Court will not sign an order shortening time to hear a motion requesting jury questionnaires, and the motion must be heard at least six (6) weeks prior to the commencement of trial. The questionnaire must be submitted to the Court in final form for signature no less than five (5) weeks prior to the commencement of trial.

## **Proposed Jury Instructions and Verdict Forms**

In accordance with EDCR 2.67, prior to the Calendar Call, counsel shall meet and discuss preinstructions to the jury, jury instructions and verdict forms. Each side shall provide the Court, at the Calendar Call, an agreed set of jury instructions and proposed form of verdict along with any additional proposed jury instructions with an electronic copy in Word format. These can be submitted on disc or should be e-mailed to the Department JEA, [MullinaxL@ClarkCountyCourts.us](mailto:MullinaxL@ClarkCountyCourts.us) and the Department Law Clerk, [Dept07LC@ClarkCountyCourts.us](mailto:Dept07LC@ClarkCountyCourts.us) .

## **Proposed Voir Dire**

In accordance with EDCR 7.70, counsel shall file and e-serve proposed voir dire questions, two (2) judicial days prior to the Calendar Call conducted pursuant to EDCR 2.67.

## **Requests for Daily Transcripts**

Counsel requesting daily transcripts must notify the Court Recorder, Stacey Ray, thirty (30) days prior to trial. Ms. Ray may be reached at (702) 671-4339 or by email at [RayS@clarkcountycourts.us](mailto:RayS@clarkcountycourts.us).

**The Department's Judicial Executive Assistant, Laura Mullinax, can be reached at (702) 671-4344, or by email at [MullinaxL@clarkcountycourts.us](mailto:MullinaxL@clarkcountycourts.us).**

**The Department Law Clerk can be reached at (702) 671-4341, or by email at [Dept07LC@clarkcountycourts.us](mailto:Dept07LC@clarkcountycourts.us).**

**EXHIBIT GUIDELINES**  
**DEPARTMENT 7**  
**THE HONORABLE JUDGE DANIELLE K. PIEPER**  
**RJC BUILDING, 5<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR**

1. JOINT EXHIBITS – ***If not already Ordered, Counsel are encouraged to submit Joint Exhibits.*** If Joint Exhibits are being submitted, counsel are encouraged to get together and stipulate to the admission of as many of the Joint Exhibits as possible and to notify the Court Clerk of their stipulation(s) prior to start of trial. Stipulated exhibits will be admitted on the record.

2. If submitting separate sets of Exhibits, duplicate Exhibits should be eliminated.

3. SETS/COPIES - Submit two or three sets of exhibits (Judge & Courtroom Clerk and /or witness). If you choose not to submit a third set, please make sure you have your own copies for the witness should you need it.

4. Depositions do not go to the jury, are not marked, nor admitted as Exhibits; however, original depositions, which counsel intend to use for impeachment purposes are “published and filed” during trial proceedings and they should be original certified and sealed depositions, unless otherwise agreed to. Submit these to the Court Clerk along with your exhibits.

5. **Submit Exhibits in a binder**, separated by tabs. Label the tabs **with numbers for Plaintiff’s Exhibits and letters for Defendant’s Exhibits**. If Joint Exhibits are submitted, label tabs with **numbers**. Bates Stamp the pages for ease in locating a specific page of an Exhibit and to ensure a clean record. If there are an excessive number of Exhibits, contact the Court Clerk prior to trial. In order to keep each Exhibit intact, be certain they are bound in some fashion, either by staples, brads, etc.

6. PHOTOS - Photographs MUST be identified separately. DO NOT PLACE MORE THAN ONE PHOTOGRAPH on one sheet of paper, as this causes problems if a single photo is admitted. For example, if Exhibit 7 consists of three photographs, label them 7-A, 7-B and 7-C. You may place more than one photo on a page, if counsel are stipulating to admitting all of them.

7. NUMBERING YOUR EXHIBITS - Label the tabs with numbers for Plaintiffs exhibits use numbers 1-1000 and Defendants exhibits use A-Z, AA-ZZ, etc. For joint exhibits, use J1-J1000 (Please notify the Courtroom Clerk/Dept. should there need to be any adjustments.) Label the first page of the exhibit with its exhibit number (ie. Plaintiffs Proposed Exhibit 13).

8. MARKING EXHIBITS - Mark the first page of each exhibit as proposed, format is shown below. If there are other exhibit labels on your documents, please make sure they are not colored. Follow the format

<p><b>MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION</b>  <b>PLAINTIFF’S PROPOSED EXHIBIT #1</b>  <b>DISTRICT COURT CASE NO. <u>A-15-123456-B</u></b></p>
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here, placing the box at the bottom of the first page of each exhibit (like you would bate stamp) . If exhibits are less than twenty, you may skip this step.

9. DEMONSTRATIVES - Larger versions of Exhibits may be used as demonstrative exhibits. These are not marked as exhibits. If parties wish for the larger exhibits to be admitted, they must submit a standard sized copy to be marked, offered, and admitted.

10. Counsel should contact the Courtroom Clerk by email at email at [GutierrezK@clarkcountycourts.us](mailto:GutierrezK@clarkcountycourts.us) or by phone at 702-671-4340 at least 5 days prior to trial to make arrangements to deliver the exhibits directly to the Courtroom Clerk. Exhibits must be hand delivered to the Courtroom Clerk only. They cannot be dropped off in the bin nor handed to other Department staff.

11. EXHIBIT LIST – Use the exhibit list template sent and email a Word version of the exhibit list to the Courtroom Clerk when you submit your exhibits at (email at [GutierrezK@clarkcountycourts.us](mailto:GutierrezK@clarkcountycourts.us) or by phone at 702-671-4340. If you do not have it, please obtain it from the Courtroom Clerk.

12. CD’S, DVD’S, USB THUMBDRIVES, ETC. – If you are proposing a CD, the Clerk needs the actual CD, do not submit a photocopy of the disk. Only one copy is needed of all digital. If you are planning to admit a portion of this, please separate the portion into another exhibit. Court cannot admit part of a CD. Also, if in a jury trial and digital media is given, Counsel need to stipulate to use a DVD player, or laptop that is “clean” to go back to the jury in order for them to view it.



