

**JUDGE BETH TANNER'S SCHEDULING PREFERENCES FAMILY COURT  
District 19D, Moore and Hoke Counties**

The following represent preferences as to the scheduling of family court matters assigned to Judge Beth Tanner, District 19D. Not every case will require addressing each scheduling item, but this provides a general outline of the issues that the court **expects** the parties to consider at each stage of scheduling. Should any preference be in direct contradiction to statutory law or a local rule, the statutory law or local rule controls. Some cases may not require the level of management outlined below but that will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

**Initial Status Conference/Scheduling and Discovery**

The following will be determined and entered with Scheduling and Discovery Order:

- A. Whether the case represents a complex litigation, which includes but is not limited to custody claims with medically complex children and/or unique issues; child support claims outside of the guidelines; equitable distribution claims involving significant assets such as multiple properties and/or businesses
- B. Deadlines for Equitable Distribution Inventory Affidavits (filed) (if required)
- C. Deadlines for Financial Affidavits (filed) (if required)
- D. Deadline for Custody Mediation, if required
- E. Deadline for Alternate Dispute Resolution
- F. Designation of a Mediator
- G. Deadlines as to service of Initial Discovery Requests (NOTE: Local Rule 5.14)
- H. Date of Initial Pretrial Conference (which will usually be set sometime after ADR)
- I. Appointment of expert and/or determination of appraisal completion dates
- J. Appointment of other experts if required

**Initial Pretrial Conference**

The following will be determined and entered with an Initial Pretrial order:

- A. Deadline for disclosures for all witnesses, to include expert witnesses
- B. Deadlines for subpoenas for third party records that require court review
- C. Deadlines for oral depositions
- D. Address any other lingering discovery issues (ie: final deadlines for sending discovery)
- E. Whether the parties require any court appointed experts/determinations of value
- F. Date for the Final Pretrial Conference\*
- G. Date for trial on any remaining matters

**Final Pretrial Conference** \*generally be held on the Status Conference date a month prior to trial.

The following will be determined and entered with a Final Pretrial order:

- A. Deadline for amendments to Equitable Distribution Inventory and Financial Affidavits
- B. Deadlines for final supplementation to any discovery
- C. Any stipulations (this includes ED stipulations and other stipulations)

Should any parties fail to provide the Court with orders for entry at the respective status and pretrial conferences, orders may be entered with the Court's preferred deadlines and dates for future proceedings.

If the parties agree to deadlines for a Scheduling Order, an Initial Pre-Trial Order, and/or a Final Pretrial Order, the parties may choose to submit a draft proposal to the Court **in advance** of the date scheduled for these various conferences. Parties are not excused from appearance at these scheduling conferences **unless an order is entered**.

See sample forms that may be helpful. Word versions are also linked and available. These are only provided as samples and no particular form is required as long as the parties address the above scheduling issues at each stage of their cases. **Parties and/or attorneys are expected to complete the drafting of the relevant order.**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SCHEDULING OF TEMPORARY MATTERS CAN BE INCLUDED IN SCHEDULING ORDERS BUT MAY ALSO BE SEPARATELY SCHEDULED THROUGH THE FAMILY COURT OFFICE. IT IS NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE JUDGE'S OFFICE TO NOTICE TEMPORARY HEARINGS ONCE A DATE IS SCHEDULED.**