

SUMMARY OF 2025 LOCAL RULE AMENDMENTS

LGR 15. Destruction, Sealing, and Redaction of Court Records – Amendments provide regularly sitting court commissioners the authority to seal motions related to Civil Protection Orders.

LCR 4(e). Form of Case Schedule – Amendment changes the completion of discovery to 56 days. The recommendation was to move up the joint confirmation of trial readiness and related deadlines for efficiency in conducting pretrial conferences. See also LCR 37 which was amended based on these changes.

LCR 4(k). Joint Statement of Evidence – Amendment brings the rule into alignment with the case schedule which states judges should be allowed to waive the joint statement of evidence.

LCR 7. Civil Motions – Amendments change which motions are heard by default with oral argument (effect is that revision motions and CR 12 motions are now defaulted to no oral argument) and clarify the procedure regarding motions for revision.

LCR 12. Defenses and Objections – Amendments remove the reference to scheduling oral argument. This is consistent with the amendment to LCR 7 which requires oral argument for CR 56 motions, instead of “dispositive motions” more generally.

LCR 37. Failure to Make Discovery; Sanctions – Amended due to changes made in the Case Schedule timeline for discovery in LCR 4(e).

LCR 40(e). Continuances / Change of Trial Date – Amendments clear up ambiguity related to scheduling conflicts and makes it clear you must file the motion to change a trial date prior to the Final Date to Change Trial as listed on the Case Schedule.

LCR 40.1(b)(1)(L). Unlawful Detainer Actions – Current emergency rule. Final amendments address processes related to contested hearings for health and safety motions in unlawful detainer cases. Additional amendments provide direction to parties regarding calendaring show cause hearings.

LCR 53.2. Court Commissioners – Current emergency rule. Amendment recognizes the RCW and states the notice of disqualification does not apply to a court commissioner.

LCR 56. Summary Judgment – Amendment makes it clear the court has the authority to strike oral argument in summary judgment motions.

LCR 98.22. Minor Guardianships – Current emergency rule and new process is currently operating under General Order. Amendments to this rule memorialize the new process in the local rules and brings the rule into the same wayfinding format as the other local rules.

LJuCR 2.5. Modification of Shelter Care Order – Current emergency rule. Aligns rule with *In re Dependency of Baby Boy B.*, 554 P.3d 1196 (Wash. S. Ct. Aug. 29, 2024) and stakeholder feedback.

LFLR 5(c)(4). Motions to be Heard by Family Law Commissioners – Current emergency rule. Amendments reverts rule back to language effective prior to 2023 amendments due to process changes with the TBA calendar.

LFLR 14. Child Support and Spousal Maintenance Modifications and Adjustments – Current emergency rule. Amendments reverts rule back to language effective prior to 2023 amendments due to process changes with the TBA calendar. Additional minor punctuation and grammar amendments are included.

LFLR 24. Family Law Arbitration Act Procedures - Current emergency rule. New rule related to the new statute for the Family Law Arbitration Act. Effective date of the new legislation was January 24, 2024.

Contents

LGR 15. DESTRUCTION, SEALING, AND REDACTION OF COURT RECORDS4

LCR 4(e). FORM OF CASE SCHEDULE.....4

LCR 4(k). JOINT STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE5

LCR 7. CIVIL MOTIONS.....6

LCR 12. DEFENSES AND OBJECTIONS7

LCR. 37. FAILURE TO MAKE DISCOVERY; SANCTIONS.....7

LCR 40(e). CONTINUANCES / CHANGE OF TRIAL DATE7

LCR 40.1(b)(1)(L). UNLAWFUL DETAINER ACTIONS.....8

LCR 53.2. COURT COMMISSIONERS9

LCR 56. SUMMARY JUDGMENT9

Red-line Version.....9

LCR 98.22 MINOR GUARDIANSHIPS ~~AND NONPARENTAL CUSTODY~~.....9

LCR 98.22 MINOR GUARDIANSHIPS14

LJuCR 2.5. MODIFICATION OF SHELTER CARE ORDER16

LFLR 5(c)(4). MOTIONS TO BE HEARD BY FAMILY LAW COMMISSIONERS.....17

LFLR 14. CHILD SUPPORT AND SPOUSAL MAINTENANCE MODIFICATIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS
.....17

LFLR 24. FAMILY LAW ARBITRATION ACT PROCEDURES19

LGR 15. DESTRUCTION, SEALING, AND REDACTION OF COURT RECORDS

For "Respective Chief Judge" see LGR 29(h).

(c) *Sealing or Redacting Court Record.*

(1) **Motions to Destroy, Redact or Seal Previously Filed Documents.**

(A) Civil. Except for motions to seal documents related to a Civil Protection Order or Restraining Order (see (H) below). ~~M~~motions to destroy, redact or seal all or part of a previously filed civil or domestic relations court record shall be filed with the clerk and presented, in accordance with GR 15 and GR 22, to the assigned judge or if there is no assigned judge, to the Respective Chief Judge.

(B) Criminal. Motions for cases that are not pending trial shall be presented to the assigned judge or his or her successor or, if there is no trial assigned judge or successor, to the Respective Chief Judge.

(C) Guardianship, Trusts and Probate: (Title 11) Motions may be presented to any regularly sitting Ex Parte Commissioner. Pro tem commissioners are not authorized to seal documents.

(D) Vulnerable Adult Protection Order: (RCW 74.04) Motions may be presented to any regularly sitting (but not a pro tem) Ex Parte Commissioner.

(E) Minor/Incapacitated Settlement: The motion shall be presented to the judicial officer who approved the minor settlement unless the judicial officer who approved the minor settlement is a pro tem commissioner, in which case the motion shall be brought before the assigned judge or any regularly sitting Ex Parte Commissioner.

(F) Name Changes Based on RCW 4.24.130(5)(a)(i)-(ii): Motion may be presented by the requesting party to any regularly sitting (but not a pro tem) Ex Parte Commissioner.

(G) Financial Source Documents, Personal Health Care Records and Confidential Reports in Title 26 Cases: In a proceeding brought pursuant to RCW 26, "financial source document", "personal health care record" and "confidential report" as defined under and submitted in accordance with GR 22 will be automatically sealed by the clerk without court order, if accompanied by the proper cover sheet. See, also, LFLR 5(d) and LFLR 11 with respect to family law court records in general. Motions to seal documents pursuant to GR 22 where the filing party did not attach the appropriate coversheet may be presented to a regular sitting Ex Parte commissioner. Pro tem commissioners are not authorized to seal documents.

(H) Civil Protection Order and Restraining Order Supporting Documents: Motions to seal documents related to a Civil Protection Order or Restraining Order may be presented to any regularly sitting Ex Parte Commissioner or Family Law Commissioner. Pro tem commissioners are not authorized to seal documents...

LCR 4(e). FORM OF CASE SCHEDULE

(a) Case Schedule...

(e) Form of Case Schedule.

(1) Case Schedule. A Case Schedule for each type of case, which will set the time period between filing and trial and the scheduled events and deadlines for that type of case, will be established by the Court by General Order, based upon relevant factors including statutory priorities, resources available to the Court, case filings, and the interests of justice.

(2) A Case Schedule, which will be customized for each type of case, will be in generally the following form:

Filing	0
Confirmation of Issues (LFLR 4(c) for dissolution and modification cases)	F+16
Status Conference, if needed (Domestic Relations cases only-see LFLR 4(e))	F+20
Confirmation of Joinder (LCR 4.2(a) for civil cases)	F+23
Last Day for Filing Statement of Arbitrability without a Showing of Good Cause for Late Filing (LMAR 2.1)	F+23
Confirmation of Completion of Genetic Testing (LFLR 4(d) for paternity cases)	F+34
Disclosure of Possible Primary Witnesses (LCR 26(b))	T-22
Disclosure of Possible Additional Witnesses (LCR 26(b))	T-16
Final Date to Change Trial and to File Jury Demand (non-family law civil cases) (LCR 38(b)(2))	T-14
Discovery Cutoff (LCR 37(g))	T-7 8
Deadline for Engaging in Alternative Dispute Resolution	T-4 8
Deadline for filing "Joint Confirmation Regarding Trial Readiness" (LCR 16)	T-3 7
Exchange of Witness and Exhibit Lists and Documentary Exhibits (LCR 4(j))	T-3
Deadline for Hearing Dispositive Pretrial Motions (LCR 56, CR 56)	T-2
Deadline for filing Trial Briefs, Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and Jury Instructions	T-1
Joint Statement of Evidence (LCR 4(k))	T-1
Trial	T

(f) Monitoring...

LCR 4(k). JOINT STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE

(a) Case Schedule...

(k) Joint Statement of Evidence. Unless waived by a judge, in-~~fr~~ cases governed by a Case Schedule pursuant to LCR 4 the parties shall file, no later than five judicial days before the scheduled trial date, a Joint Statement of Evidence, so entitled, containing (A) a list of the witnesses whom each party expects to call at trial and (B) a list of the exhibits that each party expects to offer at trial. The Joint Statement of Evidence shall contain a notation for each exhibit as to whether all parties agree as to the exhibit's authenticity or admissibility.

(l) Non-dispositive Pretrial Motions...

LCR 7. CIVIL MOTIONS

(b) Motions and Other Documents...

(3) Argument. All ~~nondispositive~~ motions, ~~motions for orders of default, and motions for default judgment~~ shall be ruled on without oral argument, except for the following:

(A) ~~Motions for summary judgment pursuant to CR 56;~~

(AB) ~~Motions for revision of commissioners' rulings:~~

~~(i) Motions for revisions of commissioners' rulings regarding involuntary commitment act proceedings, Title 13 proceedings, and proceedings where the underlying motion did not include oral argument shall be ruled on without oral argument.~~

~~(ii) All other motions for revision shall be noted with oral argument. The judge may strike oral argument. If the judge strikes oral argument, the court will notify the parties.~~

(B) Motions for temporary restraining orders and preliminary injunctions;

(C) Family Law motions under LFLR 5;

(D) Motions to be presented in person to the Ex Parte and Probate Department pursuant to the Ex Parte and Probate Department Presentation of Motions and Hearings Manual ("Motions and Hearings Manual") issued by the clerk;

(E) Motions for which the Court allows oral argument.

(4) Dates of Filing, Hearing and Consideration.

(A) Filing and Scheduling of Motions...

(B) Scheduling Oral Argument on CR 56 Dispositive Motions. The time and date for hearing shall be scheduled in advance by contacting the staff of the hearing judge.

(C) Oral Argument Requested on All Other Motions. Any party may request oral argument by placing "ORAL ARGUMENT REQUESTED" prominently on the first page of the motion or opposition...

... **(8) Motions for Revision of a Commissioner's Order.** For all cases except juvenile and involuntary treatment act proceedings:

(A) A motion for revision of a commissioner's order ~~shall~~ must be filed within 10 days of entry of the written order unless otherwise provided by statute. The moving party shall note the motion for hearing pursuant to LCR 7(b)(4)(A) and LCR 7(b)(5); the "hearing judge" is the assigned judge, or if no judge is assigned to the case, the Respective Chief Judge. By order, the Respective Chief Judge may assign the revision motion to another judge. The motion shall only identify the error(s) claimed. No response shall be filed unless requested authorized by the court. If a response is called for, a reply may be filed within two judicial days of service of the response.

(B) ~~The court will consider the motion without oral argument unless the court orders otherwise. A hearing on a motion for revision of a commissioner's order should be scheduled within 21 days of entry of the commissioner's order, unless the assigned Judge or, for unassigned cases, the Respective Chief Judge, orders otherwise.~~

~~(i) For cases assigned to an individual judge, the time and date for the hearing shall be scheduled in advance with the staff of the assigned judge.~~

~~(ii) For cases not assigned to an individual judge, the hearing shall be scheduled by the Respective Chief Judge. If the Respective Chief Judge assigns the revision motion to another judge the scheduling procedure outlined in sub (i) shall apply.~~

(Ciii) All motions for revision of a commissioner's order shall be based on the written materials and evidence submitted to the commissioner, ~~including documents and pleadings in the court file.~~ The moving party shall provide the assigned judge deciding the motion a working copy of all materials submitted to the commissioner in support of and in opposition to the motion, and, if there was a hearing before the commissioner, identify as well as the date, time,

and courtroom location of the hearing, ~~if the motion before the commissioner was recorded. Oral arguments on motions to revise shall be limited to 10 minutes per side.~~ Working copies shall be submitted pursuant to the requirements of LCR 7(b).

(Div) The commissioner's ~~written~~ order shall remain in effect pending the decision ~~hearing~~ on the motion for revision unless ordered otherwise by the court assigned Judge, or, for unassigned cases, the Respective Chief Judge.

~~(v) The party seeking revision shall, at least six judicial days before the hearing, deliver to the assigned judge or Respective Chief Judge working copies of the motion, notice of the hearing as scheduled pursuant to (i) and (ii) above, and copies of all documents submitted by all parties to the commissioner.~~

~~(vi) For cases in which a timely motion for reconsideration of the commissioner's order has been filed, the time for filing a motion for revision of the commissioner's order shall commence on the date of the filing of the commissioner's written order of judgment on reconsideration.~~

LCR 12. DEFENSES AND OBJECTIONS

(d) Motions under CR 12(b) and CR 12(c) shall be subject to the word limitations of LCR 56 and the briefing deadlines scheduling requirements of CR 56(c) ~~LCR 56 and LCR 7(b)(4)(B).~~ LCR 59 governs motions for reconsideration of an order granting a motion to dismiss that terminates the dispute. LCR 7(b)(6) governs motions for reconsideration pertaining to orders that do not finally determine a cause of action, but only decide some intervening matter pertaining to the cause.

LCR. 37. FAILURE TO MAKE DISCOVERY; SANCTIONS

(d) (Withdrawn)

(e) Conference of Counsel. See CR 26(i).

(f) Certificate of Compliance. See CR 26(i).

(g) Completion of Discovery. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court for good cause and subject to such terms and conditions as are just, all discovery allowed under CR 26-37, including responses and supplementations thereto, must be completed no later than ~~49~~ 56 calendar days before the assigned trial date (provided that deadlines shall be 28 days in all parentage cases and 35 days in all other family law proceedings as defined in LFLR 1). Discovery requests must be served early enough that responses will be due and depositions will have been taken by the cutoff date. Discovery requests that do not comply with this rule will not be enforced. Nothing in this rule shall modify a party's responsibility to seasonably supplement responses to discovery requests or otherwise to comply with discovery prior to the cutoff.

LCR 40(e). CONTINUANCES / CHANGE OF TRIAL DATE

For "Respective Chief Judge" see LGR 29(h).

(a) Notice of Trial--Note of Issue...

(e) Continuances/Change of Trial Date.

(1) [Rescinded]. Limited Adjustment of Trial Date to Resolve Schedule Conflict. ~~In cases that are governed by a Case Schedule, the trial date may be adjusted, prior to the Final Date to Change Trial, by motion, to a Monday no more than 28 days before or 28 days after the trial date listed in the Case Schedule.~~

(2) Change of Trial Date. A motion to strike or change a trial date, ~~or change a trial date more than 28 days before or after the original date,~~ shall be made in writing to the assigned Judge, or if there is no assigned Judge, to the Chief Civil Department, and shall be decided without oral argument. If a motion to change the trial date is ~~filed~~made after the Final Date to Change Trial-~~Date~~, as established by the Case Schedule, the motion will not be granted except under extraordinary circumstances where there is no alternative means of preventing a substantial injustice. A motion to strike or change a trial date may be granted subject to such conditions as justice requires.

(3) Amended Case Schedule...**LCR 40.1(b)(1)(L). UNLAWFUL DETAINER ACTIONS**

This rule governs all matters presented to the Ex Parte and Probate Department and directs certain other matters elsewhere.

(a)...**(b) Motions and Other Procedures.**

(1) Cases Not Assigned. Except as provided otherwise in these rules, all motions and proceedings pertaining to cases not assigned a case schedule or judge on filing shall be presented to the Ex Parte and Probate Department. The following cases or motions are heard by the Ex Parte and Probate Department:

(A) Adoption Proceedings...

(L) Unlawful Detainer Actions. ~~The~~ This subsection applies to unlawful detainer actions brought under chapter 59.18 RCW.

(i) When Circumstances Do Not Seriously Affect the Health and Safety of Other Tenants. ~~No Noncompliance Substantially Affecting the Health and Safety of Other Tenants.~~ Except in actions described in subparagraph (ii) below, orders to show cause, any agreed orders, and any orders that do not require notice, shall be presented without oral argument through the clerk's office to the Ex Parte and Probate Department. The moving party shall obtain the order to show cause first before filing the note for hearing. The initial hearings on order to show cause shall be heard ~~in person~~ in the Ex Parte and Probate Department, provided that contested proceedings may be referred by the judicial officer to the ~~clerk~~Chief Civil Judge, who will issue a trial date ~~and with~~ a case schedule and will assign the case to a judge. Once assigned to a judge, the moving party shall present a motion to show cause to the assigned judge as required by LCR 7(b)(9). ~~The assigned trial judge shall manage the entirety of the matter, including all other motions, except as provided otherwise in these rules or by the court.~~

(ii) When Circumstances ~~Noncompliance Substantially Affecting the Health and Safety of Other Tenants.~~ In actions alleging that the tenant is in substantial noncompliance with RCW 59.18.130 or RCW 59.18.140 in a manner that either seriously affects the health and safety of other tenants, or greatly increases the hazards of fire or accidents, as outlined in RCW 59.18.180, an action where substantial noncompliance by the tenant with any portion of RCW 59.18.130 or 59.18.140 is alleged to substantially affect the health and safety of

~~other tenants, or substantially increase the hazards of fire or accident, as provided in RCW 59.18.180, and the allegations are supported by prima facie evidence, a motion to assign for assignment of the case to a judge shall be submitted without oral argument to the Chief Civil Judge. If the Chief Civil Judge grants the motion, the Chief Civil Judge will assign the case, with a trial date, to a judge with a trial date. Once assigned to a judge, the moving party shall present a motion to show cause to the assigned judge as required by LCR 7(b)(9). The assigned trial judge shall manage the entirety of the matter, including all other motions, except as provided otherwise in these rules or by the court, and the entire case is before that judge, including all other motions except as provided otherwise in these rules or by the court.~~

(iii) Calendared Show Cause Hearings. ~~A plaintiff in an unlawful detainer proceeding may reserve only one show cause hearing on the Ex Parte and Probate Department calendar at any given time. If an unlawful detainer matter settles, or if for any other reason a plaintiff in an unlawful detainer proceeding decides not to proceed with a scheduled show cause hearing, the plaintiff shall file promptly a notice striking the pending show cause hearing. This notice to strike the pending show cause hearing shall be filed no later than one judicial day after settlement or any other decision not to proceed. If a plaintiff in an unlawful detainer proceeding has already obtained a date for a hearing on an order to show cause and seeks to reset the hearing to a new date on the Ex Parte and Probate Department calendar, the plaintiff shall file a notice striking the original hearing before submitting a new motion to reset the hearing to a new date. Failure to comply with this rule may result in the sua sponte imposition of sanctions on the offending party, attorney for that party, or both.~~

(M) Writs...

LCR 53.2. COURT COMMISSIONERS

(f) Affidavits Notice of Disqualification--Court Commissioners. ~~Affidavits of prejudice or for change of Notice of Disqualification or Motion to Change~~ Court Commissioner will not be recognized. RCW 4.12.050. The remedy of a party is for a motion for revision under RCW 2.24.050.

LCR 56. SUMMARY JUDGMENT

(c) Motions and Proceedings

(1) Argument. The court shall decide all summary judgment motions after oral argument, unless the parties waive argument or the court strikes oral argument. The assigned judge shall determine the length of oral argument.

Red-line Version

LCR 98.22 MINOR GUARDIANSHIPS ~~AND NONPARENTAL CUSTODY~~

(a) Applicability. This rule applies to petitions to appoint a guardian for guardianship of a minor pursuant to chapter RCW 11.130 RCW, and to modify or terminate such a guardianship, or to modify or terminate modifications and terminations of a prior nonparental custody orders

issued under former chapter pursuant to RCW 26.10 RCW. Further information, including forms and procedures referenced in this rule, can be found at the court's website.

(b) ~~Forms Initial Case Filings.~~ ~~The statewide guardianship pattern forms (GDN M 001-605) shall be used for all court filings in these matters unless there is a specific local form. If there is a local form, parties shall use the local forms. The pattern forms can be found at <https://www.courts.wa.gov>. The Party Information Form is a local form available here: https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dja/courts_jails_legal_system/court_forms_document_filing/forms. For cases filed on or before December 31, 2022, parties must file a Party Information Form (PIF). For cases filed after January 1, 2023, parties must file a Confidential Information Form (CIF)(GDN M 410).~~

(1) Original Petition. A new case may be filed as a petition for either an emergency minor guardianship (RCW 11.130.225), standby minor guardianship (RCW 11.130.220), or long-term minor guardianship (RCW 11.130.215). A petition for an emergency guardianship may be filed only if there is no pending case for a long-term minor guardianship, and should be filed only if the petitioner does not intend to file a long-term minor guardianship case. If there is a long-term minor guardianship case pending, any motion for emergency minor guardianship must be filed within that case.

(2) Modification or Termination Petition. A petition to modify or terminate an existing Title 11 RCW minor guardianship issued by this court must be filed under the existing cause number. A petition to modify or terminate a Title 26 RCW nonparental custody order must be filed under a new Title 11 RCW cause number, which may be consolidated with the prior case. A petition to modify or terminate a minor guardianship from another court or a non-parental custody order a must attach a copy of the guardianship or custody order at issue.

(3) Relief Regarding Nonparental Custody Order. A party seeking relief regarding a nonparental custody order, including enforcement of that order by contempt or other means, must file a petition to change the prior order into a Title 11 guardianship. A copy of the nonparental custody order must be attached to the petition. Upon proper filing, the clerk will assign a Title 11 cause number. Any motion must then be filed in the new Title 11 cause number and will be heard by the assigned judge or if there is no assigned judge then as directed by the Lead Dependency Judge.

(4) Multiple Minors. A single petition must be filed for each set of minors who share the same parents. A single petition may be filed for multiple minors with overlapping parents if doing so will facilitate presentation of evidence, case appointments, or otherwise support proper, efficient, and consistent judicial review. All petitions remain subject to the court's discretion to bifurcate or consolidate cases.

(5) Guardian Background Check. In any case in which a guardian for a minor is proposed to be appointed, within one week of filing the petition the petitioner shall also file: (A) a motion to release CPS Information covering all adults in the proposed guardian's household (to be presented for review with a proposed order); (B) a Washington State Patrol Washington Access to Criminal History report (WATCH report) for every adult in the proposed guardian's household; and (C) a completed Disclosure of Bankruptcy or Criminal History for each proposed guardian.

(c) Case Assignment. Upon proper filing, each minor guardianship action will be assigned to a judge.

(d)(e) Proceedings.

(1) Review Hearing. Each case will be set for a review hearing before the assigned judge. For long-term minor guardianship actions, the Court's 60 Day Hearing Checklist must be completed and filed at least 14 days before the review hearing. If neither the petitioner nor the proposed guardian appears at the review hearing, the Court may dismiss the case.

(2) Motions.

(A) Applicable rules. Except as provided in this rule, the provisions of LCR 7 apply, including that all motions will be heard by the assigned judge except as otherwise provided in this rule or by court order.

(B) Oral Argument. The court will consider motions without oral argument unless the court orders otherwise. Any party may request oral argument by placing "ORAL ARGUMENT REQUESTED" prominently on the first page of the motion or opposition.

(C) Immediate Emergency Guardianship. A motion for an immediate emergency minor guardianship will be heard on an expedited basis by the assigned judge, or, if unavailable, by a judge as determined by the court. Reasonable notice must be provided to the responding parents or other parties unless the minor's health, safety, or welfare will be substantially harmed before a hearing with notice can be held. If an immediate emergency guardianship is issued without notice to responding parents or other parties, the return hearing will be set promptly before the assigned judge while allowing enough time for notice to be completed.

(3) Status Conference. At any time, a party may request a status conference by emailing the assigned judge's bailiff, copying all other parties, and briefly stating the reason for the conference. If the court determines a conference is warranted, it will issue a notice of hearing to the parties.

(4) Related Protection Order. Any overlapping protection order matter to be heard concurrently with a minor guardianship case per RCW 11.130.257 will be set for hearing before the assigned judge.

(5) Discovery. There shall be no discovery except as authorized by the assigned judge.

(6) Mediation. Whether mediation will be required before proceeding to final hearing will be determined by the assigned judge.

(7) Guardian's Acceptance of Appointment. A guardian's Acceptance of Appointment must state their name as it appears in the order of appointment for the letters of guardianship to issue. If a guardian changes their name, they must obtain an order for new letters and file an acceptance under the new name to receive the new letters. The expiration date of the letters shall remain the same unless changed by the new order.

(8) Final Hearing. Readiness to proceed to final hearing will be determined by the assigned judge. This may include holding a pretrial conference and setting a trial date and pretrial deadlines.

(9) Presentation of Final Orders. Agreed or default final orders should be submitted to the assigned judge.

~~— **(1) How Initiated.** An action for Guardianship of a minor brought by a nonparent must be filed under a new cause number. The case is started by the filing of a Summons (GDN M 001), Petition (GDN M 102), and Declaration Explaining the Reasons for Minor Guardianship (GDN M 103). If there are multiple minors involved who do not have the same parents, a separate case must be filed for each minor or group of minors, who have the same parents.~~

~~— **(A) Documents Required at Filing.** The petitioner must file a Summons (GDN M 001), Petition (GDN M 102), Declaration Explaining the Reasons for Minor Guardianship (GDN M 103), and the Party Information Form (if filed on or before December 31, 2022) or the Confidential Information Form (GDN M 410) (if filed after January 1, 2023) At the time of filing, the petitioner shall also submit the Motion and Order Directing DCYF/CPS to Release Information (GDN M 404 & 405), the Party Information form, if filed on or before December 31, 2022 or the Confidential Information Form (GDN M 410), if filed after January 1, 2023 to Ex Parte via the Clerk.~~

~~Immediately after receiving the Order Setting Case Schedule from the clerk, the petitioner **must** complete the Notice of Hearing (**GDN M 101**) with the date and time that the court has set, making sure to add to the Notice of Hearing the list of people entitled to notice (GDN M 101 Notice Attachment). The hearing shall be noted on the Ex Parte Guardianship~~

~~calendar, not with the assigned judge. The Notice of Hearing (GDN M 101), Summons (GDN M 001), Petition (GDN M 002), Declaration Explaining Reasons for Minor Guardianship (GDN M 003), and Case Schedule must be served on all parties entitled to service.~~

~~————— **(B) Other Documents to Submit at Filing.** Although not required for filing, it is highly recommended that the following documents be submitted at the time of filing or as soon after filing as possible. If applicable, the Petitioner shall submit the Motion and Order to Withhold Certain Documents (GDN M 106 and 107) from the Minor to Ex Parte via the Clerk. The initial Orders appointing a Guardian ad Litem and/or Court Visitor (GDN M 409), and/or Motion and Order appointing a Lawyer (GDN ALL 021 and 022), as applicable to each case shall be presented through Ex Parte via the Clerk. The forms are located here: <https://kingcounty.gov/courts/superior-court/ex-parte-probate/Minor-Guardianships.aspx>.~~

~~————— **(2) Requirements.** The petitioner(s) shall promptly obtain and file a Washington State Patrol check (see <https://www.wsp.wa.gov/crime/criminal-history> for the WATCH background check) and obtain an order for Child Protective Services (CPS) background check on the proposed guardian and all adult household members of the proposed guardian. The Motions and Order to DCYF to Release CPS information (GDN M 404 and 405) shall be presented through Ex Parte via the Clerk. The proposed Guardian shall attend the mandatory lay guardian training within 60 days of filing. See <https://www.courts.wa.gov/guardianportal/> for mandatory guardianship training information.~~

~~————— **(3) Case Assignment.** All Minor Guardianship actions shall be assigned to the Unified Family Court judge(s) designated by the Chief UFC Judge. All motions will be heard in the Ex Parte Department on the Ex Parte Guardianship Calendar unless this rule provides otherwise or otherwise ordered by the court.~~

~~————— **(4) Finalization.** Agreed or default Minor Guardianship finalizations shall be noted on the Ex Parte Guardianship Calendar or may be completed at the Status Hearing.~~

~~————— **(d) Notice and Hearing.** Except as otherwise noted in this rule, all hearings shall be scheduled with a Note for Calendar (King County form "Notice of Court Date" for either Seattle or Kent depending on Court assignment) on the Ex Parte Guardianship Calendar at 10:30 a.m. The Note for Calendar shall be filed at least 14 days prior to the scheduled hearing date. Any party opposing a motion shall file and serve responsive pleadings to a motion no later than noon four judicial days before the date the motion is scheduled for hearing. Any pleadings in strict reply shall be served no later than noon two judicial days before the date the motion is scheduled for hearing. Parties shall submit working papers to the Ex Parte Department of all pleadings they filed for the hearing. Working papers can be submitted to Ex Parte by following the instructions here: <https://kingcounty.gov/courts/superior-court/ex-parte-probate.aspx>.~~

~~————— **(e) Status Hearing.** At the time of filing, the court will set a hearing in the Ex Parte Department approximately 60 days after filing. Before the 60-day hearing, the Petitioner must complete and file the 60-day hearing checklist. The form is located here: <https://kingcounty.gov/~media/courts/superior-court/docs/ex-parte-probate/guardianship-forms/UGA%20implementation/60-day-checklist.ashx?la=en>. Parties shall submit working papers to the Ex Parte Department of all pleadings they filed including the 60-day checklist. Working papers can be submitted to Ex Parte by following the instructions here: <https://kingcounty.gov/courts/superior-court/ex-parte-probate.aspx>. The parties shall appear at that hearing to address whether service has been completed on all individuals requiring notice, background and CPS checks have been completed, any necessary court visitor, GAL, or attorney has been appointed, and any other issues necessary for the case to move forward. If neither the petitioner nor the proposed guardian appears at the scheduled hearing, the case may be dismissed. The court will determine whether the case is likely to be resolved by agreement, by default, or should be set for trial. After a determination that a case is contested, the case will be referred to the assigned judge to set a trial date and case schedule. If a case~~

is assigned to a judge for trial, all motions and other proceedings shall be set before the assigned judge. There is no discovery in guardianship cases until the case is set for trial.

~~—(f) **Petitions and Motions for Emergency Minor Guardianship.**~~

~~—(1) **Petition for Emergency Guardianship.** A party may file a Petition for Emergency Guardianship (GDN M 202) only if there is no pending Minor Guardianship case and the petitioner will not file a Minor Guardianship case. When an Emergency Minor Guardianship Petition (**GDN M 202**) and a Notice of Hearing About an Emergency Minor Guardianship Petition (GDN M 201) is filed, the clerk will issue a case schedule setting a hearing before the assigned judge on the first Friday that is at least 14 days after filing. Any motions to extend an Emergency Guardianship order by 60 days shall be set before the assigned judge with 14 days' notice. Motions to extend an emergency guardianship pending the outcome of a full guardianship, if one has been filed, may be set before the Ex Parte Department. If the full guardianship has been referred to an assigned judge for trial, all motions to extend any emergency guardianship, must be set before the assigned judge with 14 days' notice.~~

~~—(2) **Motions for Emergency Guardianship.** A party may file a Motion for Emergency Guardianship (GDN M 206) at the same time a Minor Guardianship Petition is filed or if a Minor Guardianship case is already pending before the court. Hearings on the Motion for Emergency Guardianship or to extend an Emergency Minor Guardianship until the Minor Guardianship is concluded shall be set before the assigned judge with 14 days' notice.~~

~~—(3) **Motion for Immediate Order (Emergency Guardianship).** A party may file a Motion for Immediate Order (Ex Parte) Emergency Minor Guardianship and Restraining Order (GDN M 204) either at the same time as filing a Minor Guardianship Petition (GDN M 102) or an Emergency Guardianship Petition (GDN M 202) or after filing either petition. The Motion for Immediate Order (GDN M 204) shall be heard in the Ex Parte Department according to the emergency hearing process described on the Ex Parte & Probate Department's website and/or in the Ex Parte manual. The return hearing will be set before the assigned judge on the first Friday that provides at least three calendar days' notice to responding parents. The moving party shall submit a proposed Immediate Minor Guardianship Order (Ex Parte) and Hearing notice (GDN M 205) with the Motion.~~

~~—(g) **Petitions for Standby Guardians.** Following expiration of the required statutory 60 days, a hearing regarding appointment of a standby guardian may be noted in the Ex Parte Department on the guardianship calendar with at least 14 days' notice.~~

~~—(h) **Consolidation of Cases.** All petitions for guardianship must be filed as separate cases. The court may consolidate all separately filed emergency and standby guardianship petitions into the Minor Guardianship Petition when all petitions are regarding the same child(ren). Petitions for modification of existing Title 11 minor guardianships may be filed within the existing case.~~

~~—(i) **Motions for Temporary Child Support, Temporary Restraining Orders and to Restrain or Permit Relocation.** Motions to set temporary child support, for a temporary restraining order, or to permit or restrain relocation, shall be set before the assigned judge on at least 14 days' notice. Parties may petition the court for temporary restraining orders entered on an emergency basis to prevent immediate injury, loss, or damage. See also CR 65. The moving party shall present the Motion for Ex Parte Restraining Order to the Ex Parte Department according to the emergency hearing process described on the Ex Parte & Probate Department's website and/or in the Ex Parte manual. The Order to Show Cause shall schedule a return hearing before the assigned judge within 14 days, unless extended for good cause.~~

~~—(j) **Domestic Violence, Anti-Harassment, or other order seeking protection under another defined statute.** Any matter related to issuance of a protection order that includes protecting a child subject to any minor guardianship matter shall be filed separately from the Minor Guardianship matter under a new cause of action. The court shall set full protection order hearings before the assigned judge to be heard concurrent with these proceedings.~~

~~—(k) **Acceptance of Appointment.** The guardian name(s) must be typed or printed on the acceptance of appointment (GDN ALL 003) as it appears in the order. If a guardian changes their name, they must obtain an order for new letters and file an acceptance of appointment under the new name in order to receive new letters of guardianship. The expiration date of the letters shall remain the same unless changed by the new order.~~

~~—(l) **Modifications and Terminations.** All petitions to modify or terminate an existing Title 11 Minor Guardianship order or an existing Title 26 Non-Parent Custody order shall be initiated by filing a Petition to Terminate or Change Minor Guardianship or Non-Parent Custody Order (GDN M 502) along with a copy of the custody or guardianship order. All petitions to terminate or change a non-parent custody order shall be filed under a new cause number. The clerk will issue a new Title 11 cause number for all Petitions to Modify or Terminate a Title 26 Nonparental Custody Order. Petitions to modify or terminate an existing Title 11 Minor Guardianship granted by this court shall be filed under the existing cause number. All hearings in modification and termination matters are heard by the assigned judge.~~

~~—(m) **Non-Parent Custody Post-Order Motions.** A party who needs to file a motion related to a Non-Parent Custody Order must file a Petition to Assign a Title 11 Cause Number under a Minor Guardianship Conversion cause of action. This form is available on the clerk's website at <https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dja>. A copy of the Non-Parent Custody order must be attached to the Petition. Upon the filing of the complete Petition, the clerk will assign a Title 11 cause number. Any motion must then be filed in the new Title 11 cause number and will be heard in the Ex Parte Department, or if a judge has been assigned, by the assigned judge.~~

Clean Version

LCR 98.22 MINOR GUARDIANSHIPS

(a) Applicability. This rule applies to petitions to appoint a guardian of a minor pursuant to chapter 11.130 RCW, to modify or terminate such a guardianship, or to modify or terminate a prior nonparental custody order issued under former chapter 26.10 RCW. Further information, including forms and procedures referenced in this rule, can be found at the court's website.

(b) Initial Case Filings.

(1) Original Petition. A new case may be filed as a petition for either an emergency minor guardianship (RCW 11.130.225), standby minor guardianship (RCW 11.130.220), or long-term minor guardianship (RCW 11.130.215). A petition for an emergency guardianship may be filed only if there is no pending case for a long-term minor guardianship, and should be filed only if the petitioner does not intend to file a long-term minor guardianship case. If there is a long-term minor guardianship case pending, any motion for emergency minor guardianship must be filed within that case.

(2) Modification or Termination Petition. A petition to modify or terminate an existing Title 11 RCW minor guardianship issued by this court must be filed under the existing cause number. A petition to modify or terminate a Title 26 RCW nonparental custody order must be filed under a new Title 11 RCW cause number, which may be consolidated with the prior case. A petition to modify or terminate a minor guardianship from another court or a non-parental custody order must attach a copy of the guardianship or custody order at issue.

(3) Relief Regarding Nonparental Custody Order. A party seeking relief regarding a nonparental custody order, including enforcement of that order by contempt or other means, must file a petition to change the prior order into a Title 11 guardianship. A copy of the nonparental custody order must be attached to the petition. Upon proper filing, the clerk will assign a Title 11 cause number. Any motion must then be filed in the new Title 11 cause

number and will be heard by the assigned judge or if there is no assigned judge then as directed by the Lead Dependency Judge.

(4) Multiple Minors. A single petition must be filed for each set of minors who share the same parents. A single petition may be filed for multiple minors with overlapping parents if doing so will facilitate presentation of evidence, case appointments, or otherwise support proper, efficient, and consistent judicial review. All petitions remain subject to the court's discretion to bifurcate or consolidate cases.

(5) Guardian Background Check. In any case in which a guardian for a minor is proposed to be appointed, within one week of filing the petition the petitioner shall also file: (A) a motion to release CPS Information covering all adults in the proposed guardian's household (to be presented for review with a proposed order); (B) a Washington State Patrol Washington Access to Criminal History report (WATCH report) for every adult in the proposed guardian's household; and (C) a completed Disclosure of Bankruptcy or Criminal History for each proposed guardian.

(c) Case Assignment. Upon proper filing, each minor guardianship action will be assigned to a judge.

(d) Proceedings.

(1) Review Hearing. Each case will be set for a review hearing before the assigned judge. For long-term minor guardianship actions, the Court's 60 Day Hearing Checklist must be completed and filed at least 14 days before the review hearing. If neither the petitioner nor the proposed guardian appears at the review hearing, the Court may dismiss the case.

(2) Motions.

(A) Applicable rules. Except as provided in this rule, the provisions of LCR 7 apply, including that all motions will be heard by the assigned judge except as otherwise provided in this rule or by court order.

(B) Oral Argument. The court will consider motions without oral argument unless the court orders otherwise. Any party may request oral argument by placing "ORAL ARGUMENT REQUESTED" prominently on the first page of the motion or opposition.

(C) Immediate Emergency Guardianship. A motion for an immediate emergency minor guardianship will be heard on an expedited basis by the assigned judge, or, if unavailable, by a judge as determined by the court. Reasonable notice must be provided to the responding parents or other parties unless the minor's health, safety, or welfare will be substantially harmed before a hearing with notice can be held. If an immediate emergency guardianship is issued without notice to responding parents or other parties, the return hearing will be set promptly before the assigned judge while allowing enough time for notice to be completed.

(3) Status Conference. At any time, a party may request a status conference by emailing the assigned judge's bailiff, copying all other parties, and briefly stating the reason for the conference. If the court determines a conference is warranted, it will issue a notice of hearing to the parties.

(4) Related Protection Order. Any overlapping protection order matter to be heard concurrently with a minor guardianship case per RCW 11.130.257 will be set for hearing before the assigned judge.

(5) Discovery. There shall be no discovery except as authorized by the assigned judge.

(6) Mediation. Whether mediation will be required before proceeding to final hearing will be determined by the assigned judge.

(7) Guardian's Acceptance of Appointment. A guardian's Acceptance of Appointment must state their name as it appears in the order of appointment for the letters of guardianship to

issue. If a guardian changes their name, they must obtain an order for new letters and file an acceptance under the new name to receive the new letters. The expiration date of the letters shall remain the same unless changed by the new order.

(8) Final Hearing. Readiness to proceed to final hearing will be determined by the assigned judge. This may include holding a pretrial conference and setting a trial date and pretrial deadlines.

(9) Presentation of Final Orders. Agreed or default final orders should be submitted to the assigned judge.

LJuCR 2.5. MODIFICATION OF SHELTER CARE ORDER

(a) 30-Day Hearings ~~and New Issues.~~

(1) ~~Scheduling.~~ ~~The initial 30-day shelter care hearing must be scheduled by the petitioner by filing a Note for Calendar upon filing the action. If the child remains out of home and has not yet been found dependent as to all parents who have appeared, each 30-day shelter care hearing order must set an additional 30-day shelter care hearing. **Time.** The second hearing shall be set within 30 days of the first hearing, unless by agreement on the record or in writing of all parties or the order of the court.~~

~~(2) Procedure.~~

~~_____ **(A)** If the court previously ordered that visitation between a parent and child be unsupervised, then unless any party seeks to raise issues pursuant to subsection (a)(3) of this rule, a hearing in open court will not occur, parties' presence will be excused, and the court will enter an order continuing the terms of the 72-hour shelter care hearing.~~

~~_____ **(B)** If the court previously ordered that visitation between a parent and child be supervised or monitored, and no party has timely provided a report as described in subsection (a)(2)(C) of this rule, then a hearing in open court will not occur, parties' presence will be excused, and the court will enter an order removing any requirement for supervision or monitoring of visitation but continuing the remaining terms of the 72-hour shelter care hearing.~~

~~_____ **(C)** If the court previously ordered that visitation between a parent and child be supervised or monitored, and a party has timely provided a report not later than noon three days prior to the 30-day shelter care hearing that includes evidence establishing that removing visit supervision or monitoring would create a risk to the child's safety, then the court shall hold a hearing and determine on the record whether visit supervision or monitoring must continue.~~

(2) Report. The deadline for any report filed pursuant to RCW 13.34.065(7)(a)(ii) is noon three days before the 30-day shelter care hearing. Responses, if any, shall be filed and served by noon the day before the hearing. Working copies should be provided as outlined in LJuCR 1.8(b)(4).

~~**(3) Notice of Issues:** Any party seeking to address an issue at the 30-day shelter care hearing shall file and serve a brief identifying the issue not later than noon three days prior to the hearing. Responses must be filed and served by noon the day before the hearing. Working copies should be provided as outlined in LJuCR 1.8(b)(4).~~

(3) Hearing. The parties may waive or continue a 30-day shelter care hearing by submitting an agreed proposed order. Absent such agreement, the 30-day shelter care hearing will be held in open court.

(b) Modification of Shelter Care Order ~~after 30-Day Hearing~~. ~~A shelter care hearing order also may be modified upon motion filed~~ An additional shelter care hearing can be set by filing a motion in accordance with LJuCR 1.8.

LFLR 5(c)(4). MOTIONS TO BE HEARD BY FAMILY LAW COMMISSIONERS

(c) *Motions to be heard by Family Law Commissioners.*

(1) Case Assignment. Hearings with a “KNT” designation shall be noted at the Maleng Regional Justice Center (MRJC) in Kent and hearings with a “SEA” designation shall be noted at King County Courthouse in Seattle. For judicial economy, the court may hear motions in either courthouse.

(2) Agreed orders continuing a family law hearing shall be submitted to the “Orders for Review” queue in the clerk’s e-filing application. See LFLR 6(g)(1).

(3) Unless otherwise specified in this rule, all contested motions in family law cases shall be heard on the family law motions calendar.

(4) Motions in Trial by Affidavit cases. All motions in trial by affidavit cases, including motions related to discovery, shall be heard by the assigned judge Trial by Affidavit family law commissioner. See LFLR 14.

LFLR 14. CHILD SUPPORT AND SPOUSAL MAINTENANCE MODIFICATIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS

(a) *Scope of This Rule.*

(1) This rule applies to child support and spousal maintenance adjustments that are brought independently from a petition to modify a parenting plan, or child custody or visitation order. This rule does not apply to support modifications that are based on a substantial change of circumstances if there is a pending proceeding to modify a parenting plan, or child custody or visitation order.

~~**(2)**~~ In cases where a modification of a parenting plan, child custody, or visitation are no longer at issue, the court may transfer the support issues to the Trial by Affidavit Calendar, and this rule will then apply.

~~**(2)**~~ **(3)** A child support adjustment, which merely implements a periodic adjustment clause in an Order of Child Support or is limited to the relief authorized by RCW 26.09.170(9) and (10), shall be brought on the Family Law Motions Calendar under LFLR 6. Each party must also follow LFLR 10.

~~**(3)**~~ **(4)** In a Child Support modification proceeding, the court may grant relief limited to the scope of a child support adjustment, if the case does not meet the requirements for a modification but does meet the requirements for an adjustment.

(b) *Support Modification Proceedings.*

(1) Documents Required to Be Served and Filed

(A) Documents Required from Petitioner. A party petitioning for modification of child support or spousal maintenance shall file and serve upon all other parties the Summons and Petition, a completed Financial Declaration, child support worksheets (if applicable), and the financial documents specified in LFLR 10. The petitioning party shall serve the other party a copy of the Order Setting Case Schedule (issued by the Clerk) with the Summons. If the

existing support order was not issued by King County Superior Court, a certified copy of the order must be filed with the Petition.

(B) Documents Required from Responding Parties. Each responding party shall file and serve a Response to Petition, a completed Financial Declaration, child support worksheets (if applicable), and the financial documents specified in LFLR 10, by the deadline established by service of the Summons.

(c) Motions.

(1) Pre-trial Motions re Support-only Modifications. ~~All~~ Pre-trial motions relating to support-only modifications, including motions to change the trial date, to permit testimony, or relating to discovery, shall be decided by the assigned judge on the Trial by Affidavit Calendar without oral argument, unless otherwise specified. Motions shall be noted for hearing at least fourteen (14) days in advance. The procedure for such motions shall conform to LCR 7 and LFLR 6 to the extent not inconsistent with this rule. There is no requirement to confirm such motions. Motion documents shall be filed with the Clerk and working copies shall be provided to the court pursuant to the requirements of LCR 7(b) to the extent not inconsistent with this rule. Working copies submitted in paper form must be delivered to the judge's mailroom in the courthouse in which the judge is located Trial by Affidavit mailbox in the judges' mailroom of the courthouse where the matter will be heard.

(2) Motions to Permit Live Testimony.

(A) Testimony is ordinarily in the form of declarations and affidavits. Oral argument is allowed at all trials by affidavit. A party seeking permission to present live testimony at the time of the trial by affidavit (in addition to oral argument) must file a motion with a supporting declaration setting forth the reasons why live testimony is necessary. The motion and supporting documents shall be noted, filed, and served not later than the deadline set forth in the case schedule.

(B) The supporting documents must demonstrate the extraordinary features of the case warranting live testimony. Factors which may be considered include: ~~substantial~~ questions of credibility on a major issue, insufficiency or inconsistency in discovery materials not correctable by further discovery, or particularly complex circumstances requiring expert testimony.

(C) A Motion to Permit Testimony may not be entered by stipulation. If the motion is granted, a hearing will be set.

(3) Motions for Temporary Orders. Motions for Temporary Support Orders will not ordinarily be considered in support-only modification proceedings. Exceptions may apply in exigent circumstances, such as when there has been a change in residential care, a party has requested a continuance of the trial date, or when the lack of a temporary order would substantially prejudice a party. A motion for temporary support shall be noted ~~before the assigned judge on the Family Law Motions Calendar~~ with at least 14 calendar days' notice. If the matter is being continued for reasons unrelated to the conduct of the party requesting the continuance, the court in its discretion may also consider an oral motion for temporary support pending trial. There is no requirement to confirm such motions.

(d) Method of Disposition of Support Modification Proceedings.

(1) Trial by Affidavit. The trial of support-only modification petitions shall be heard on affidavits, declarations, pleadings, and discovery materials obtained pursuant to CR 26-37, unless the court authorizes live testimony pursuant to a motion brought under LFLR 14(c)(2) above.

(2) Proposed Orders. The petitioning party shall provide proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, child support worksheets, and orders to the other parties and the court not

later than the time of trial. The proposed orders shall not be filed with the clerk. Working copies of the proposed orders for the judge shall be submitted pursuant to the requirements of LCR 7(b) to the extent not inconsistent with this rule. If the petitioning party is not present at trial and has not presented proposed orders, the matter may be dismissed.

(3) Judicial Officer Presiding. Unless otherwise assigned by the court, support-only modification trials shall be heard ~~by the judge assigned in the case schedule~~ on the Trial by Affidavit Calendar by a Family Law Commissioner.

(4) Notice of Disqualification. ~~Not recognized for matters heard by assigned TBA Commissioner. See RCW 4.12.050 and LCR 53.2.~~

(4) (5) Independent Proceedings. Except as otherwise stated, Petitions for Modification of Support shall proceed as original determinations, with no threshold or adequate cause hearing required.

(5) (6) Arbitration. The parties may stipulate to arbitrate the issues in the petition pursuant to the state and local Mandatory Arbitration Rules. The stipulation must be in writing, in a form as prescribed by the Court. The stipulation must state whether the issues will be handled by private arbitration or will be submitted to the King County Arbitration Department for assignment of an arbitrator.

(A) Motions for Temporary Relief. Once an arbitrator has been appointed, all motions shall be decided by the arbitrator.

(B) Appeals from Arbitration. Parties may file for a trial de novo per LCR 40 and LCAR 7.1. Requests for a trial de novo from the decision of an arbitrator shall be heard on the Trial by Affidavit Calendar.

(7) Trial by Affidavit Procedure. Parties shall file the originals of all documents to be considered with the Clerk. Trial by Affidavit must be confirmed by the submission of a copy of these materials either in paper form to the ~~assigned judge's~~ Trial by Affidavit mailbox at the courthouse where the ~~assigned judge is located~~ matter will be heard or electronically through the clerk's e-filing system (e-working copies) by the deadline in the case schedule. Materials not submitted via e-working copies must be in three-ring binders, with the case name, case number, and trial date on the front cover of each binder. Documents submitted in binders should be single-sided. Each party to the proceeding will have a maximum of ten (10) minutes, including rebuttal, to present oral argument to the court. No new evidence may be offered at the time of trial unless stipulated by the parties or authorized by the court for good cause shown. ~~Parties may attend the trial by telephone, provided that prior arrangements have been made with the court. A party is not obligated to attend the hearing.~~

(8) Procedure on Default.

(A) Default Procedures. See LFLR 5(e)(7).

(B) Failure of a responding party or their counsel to be present ~~in person or by counsel~~ at the time of trial shall not constitute a default, as the presentation of oral argument is optional. If counsel or a pro se party is not present, the court will decide the matter based upon the working papers and the oral argument of those present.

LFLR 24. FAMILY LAW ARBITRATION ACT PROCEDURES

(a) Applicability. This rule only applies to proceedings governed by RCW 26.14

(b) Motions to be heard by Family Law Commissioners. Hearings set on the Family Law motions calendar shall comply with the provisions of LFLR 6.

(1) Motions to modify, compel, confirm, correct, vacate, terminate, stay/permit, or review arbitration of temporary orders shall be scheduled on the Family Law motions calendar.

(2) Motions to select or disqualify an arbitrator shall be scheduled on the Family Law motions calendar.

(3) Motions to clarify an arbitrator's ruling shall be scheduled on the Family Law motions calendar.

(4) Motions to enforce confirmed arbitration awards shall be scheduled on the Family Law Motions Calendar.

(5) Motions for entry of judgments relating to arbitration awards shall be scheduled on the Family Law motions calendar unless otherwise noted in conjunction with other motions required to be set before assigned judges or the Chief Unified Family Court Judge.

(6) Agreed orders to modify, confirm, correct, or permit arbitration shall be submitted to the Ex Parte Family Law Agreed Orders queue.

(c) Motions to be heard by Judges. Hearings before judges shall be scheduled using the procedures outlined in LFLR 5. Unless otherwise required, motions scheduled before judges shall be heard without oral argument.

(1) Motions to modify, compel, confirm, correct, vacate, terminate, stay/permit, or review arbitration of final orders shall be scheduled before the assigned judge or, if the trial date has passed, before the Chief Unified Family Court Judge for reassignment.

(2) Motions to consolidate arbitration shall be scheduled before the Chief Unified Family Court Judge.

(3) Motions related to discovery, including enforcement of subpoenas, shall be scheduled before the assigned judge or, if the trial date has passed, before the Chief Unified Family Court Judge for reassignment.

(4) Motions to seal arbitration awards shall be set before the assigned judge or, if the trial date has passed, the Chief Unified Family Court Judge.

(d) Submitting the Record. Recordings of arbitration proceedings may be submitted as a digital exhibit (via Case Center or otherwise as directed) or a written copy of the certified transcript attached to the motion.

(e) References.

(1) Motions referencing digital exhibits shall note start and stop times for review.

(2) Motions referencing a certified transcript shall cite relevant page and line numbers.