

Protocol for Judge Grant:

Location

Fourth Floor - Oakland County Courthouse
Telephone: 248-858-0358
Fax: 248-975-9795

Background

Judge Grant is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Wayne State University Law School. She has served on the Circuit Court since 1997. Previously, Judge Grant was in private practice.

Scheduling/Conference

Scheduling conference only held in case of change of venue. Status conference, held at request of parties. Settlement conference at request of parties or Court's order -- all parties must attend. Pretrial conference only on request of parties. Phone conferences allowed in all cases but settlement conference; must be approved by Court. Final pretrial conferences sometimes held on request of parties or by Courts order. Criminal sentence and arraignments are 8:30 a.m. Thursday. Cobbs pleas are accepted, but not on day of trial. Adjournments allowed on formal motion with all parties present. Judge takes bench every day at 8:30 a.m. promptly.

Motion Practice

Motions are heard at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday. First come, first served; see clerk. Add-ons allowed but dependent on docket and length of motion. Limited oral arguments on dispositive motions. See Court Rule for dispositive motions. Motions in limine deadline is two weeks prior to date of trial. Summary disposition referred to research attorney. Oral bond motions not permitted on Thursday. Judge takes bench at 8:30 a.m. promptly.

TRO/Injunction

Court uses MCR 3.310; ex parte relief granted only per MCR 3.310.

Discovery

Scheduling order dictates time for discovery. Can be extended prior to cutoff by stipulation; after cutoff by motion. Court will intervene during depositions if compelled upon motion and good cause. Court will consider appointment of discovery master dependent on circumstances.

Pretrials

Telephone pretrials are allowed at parties' request. Court uses joint final pretrial order; due one week before trial. Settlement discussions emphasized at final pretrial conference; all parties must attend. Court routinely involved in settlement negotiations in jury cases. Rarely allows added witness after joint pretrial order is submitted.

Trials

Docket is computer-generated. Adjournments allowed on motion with all parties present for good cause. Trial brief due one week prior to trial; all exhibits marked and agreed by parties. Exhibits labeled: Plaintiff - numbers; Defense - letters. Court requires benchbook of exhibits for bench trials. In limine motions due two weeks before trial. Trial days are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday, Tuesday and Friday; Noon to 5:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday. Court requires proposed findings; can be amended after trial to conform with evidence with Court's discretion. Court conducts initial voir dire; counsel participates. Specific voir dire allowed in writing prior to trial. Jury instructions on plain paper without citation to case law on first day of trial. Jury generally charged after final argument. Upon request, jury may take notes in lengthy matters and into jury deliberations.

General

Court is open to all ADR techniques. Follow court rules for license restoration. District court appeals as per court rules.