

The Honorable Shalina D. Kumar

In order to better serve the attorneys and litigants appearing in Judge Kumar's courtroom, we have adopted the following guidelines. Please advise your clients and staff so that there are no misunderstandings.

Location

First Floor - Courtroom 1C - Oakland County Courthouse
Telephone: 248-858-5280
Fax: Not for Public Use

Background

Judge Shalina D. Kumar was an associate of the Southfield based law firm of Weiner & Cox, PLC, specializing in complex civil litigation, medical malpractice and wrongful death actions with extensive trial experience. Judge Kumar graduated with distinction from the University of Michigan with a B.A. in psychology and the University of Detroit-Mercy School of Law.

Motion Practice

Motions heard promptly at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday; check-in with clerk. Add-on policy at Court's discretion. Does not allow oral argument on all motions. Moving party sets hearing date for motions, except summary disposition. Hearing held seven days after motion is filed. Responses must be served and filed at least two days before the hearing. In limine motions are due per scheduling order. Dates for summary disposition set by Court after motion is filed and will not be scheduled for oral argument until a hard copy is delivered to the Judge's chambers. Motions for summary disposition are heard at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday.

This is an E-filing Court.

TRO/Injunction

Court uses MCR 3.310 and grants ex-parte relief as per court rules. Court will accelerate briefing schedule.

Scheduling and Discovery

Initial scheduling orders are computer-generated by Case Management Office. First adjournment extending dates for a total of 60 days is permitted by stipulation and order. Second scheduling order adjournments or a more lengthy extension of time must be scheduled for a motion. Good cause must be shown; adjournments are not routinely granted. Court will appoint discovery master on request of parties.

Pretrials

Civil: pretrials with attorneys are scheduled after Case Evaluation. Court routinely orders facilitation. Attorneys should confer about stipulating to a particular facilitator before attending pretrial. Settlement conferences are required with trial counsel and clients present. Court may allow parties to participate in settlement conference by telephone if parties are out-of-state; parties must have prior permission of Court and make arrangements. Court routinely becomes involved in settlement negotiations in civil jury trials. *Criminal:* sentencings, pretrials and arraignments are held at 1:30 p.m., Tuesdays. Defendants out on bond may be held at 10:30 on Tuesdays at the discretion of the Court. Will accept Cobbs pleas at arraignment or pretrials, and on day of trial at the discretion of the Court. Does not accept arraignments by mail.

Trials

Adjournments by motion for good cause only. Court does not routinely grant adjournments. Exhibits marked by attorneys prior to trial and must be submitted on first day of trial; Plaintiff-numbers; Defendant-letters. Trial briefs required for bench trials 21 days before trial date. Trial schedule: Monday (all day); Wednesday (p.m. only), Thursday (all day); Friday (all day). All-day sessions are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; half-day sessions are 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Court principally conducts voir dire, but counsel may participate. Specific voir dire requests must be filed in civil cases one day before trial. Proposed jury instructions required on plain paper (without citation of authority or identity of proponent) on first day of trial. Jury charged after final argument and may take instructions in to deliberations along with exhibits. Jurors not allowed to take notes.