



Judicial Practices and Procedures (last modified February, 2026)

Kent Compton, Judge
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Contact Information

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A. Communications with the Judicial Office

- **Method of Communication:**

- Self-represented litigants and attorneys may communicate with the judicial office by telephone (352) 521-4424. The judicial office does not accept text messages.

- **Ex parte Communications:**

- All communications with the judicial office must comply with Canon 3 of the Code of Judicial Conduct, which prohibits a judge from initiating, permitting, or considering ex parte communications and from considering other communications outside the presence of the parties concerning a pending or impending proceeding, unless authorized by law. All parties must be copied on any e-mail directed to the judicial office, unless an ex parte communication is authorized by law.

- **Unsolicited Communications:**

- Parties may only contact the judicial office in accordance with these practices and procedures. Unsolicited communications from non-parties will not be considered by the court.

- **E-Filing Portal Contact Information:**

- All attorneys and self-represented litigants must make and receive service by e-mail, which is generally through the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal, unless excused. Fla. R. Gen. Prac. & Jud. Admin. 2.516.
- All attorneys and self-represented litigants must provide an e-mail address to receive signed orders electronically, unless excused. Fla. R. Gen. Prac. & Jud. Admin. 2.516. It is the responsibility of attorneys and self-represented litigants to update their contact information using Form 2.603 any time there is a change in the e-mail account registered for electronic service.

- **Response to Inquiries:**

- The judicial assistant is not authorized to provide legal advice.
- The judicial assistant strives to substantively respond to all inquiries within one business day. If the judicial assistant is unable to substantively respond within one business day, your message will be acknowledged as received with an indication of when to expect a substantive response.

- **Other Communication Procedures:**

- Any e-mail sent to or from the judicial office may be a public record subject to disclosure.

B. Scheduling Procedures

- **Scheduling Hearings: (Please see Remote Appearance below for additional information)**

- Attorney's must request hearing times using the court's online scheduling platform:

https://jaws.pascocountyfl.net/jaws_attorney/login.aspx

- In-person hearings will occur at the Robert D. Sumner Judicial Center, 38053 Live Oak Ave, Dade City, FL 33523.
- Hearings set for 15 minutes may be scheduled directly online. For hearings which require additional time, adjacent hearing time slots may be combined to create the amount of time required provided you first e-mail/call the Judicial Assistant to create the time slot prior to scheduling your hearing.
- It is the moving party's responsibility to confirm that all counsel/associated parties are in the JAWS database to ensure all parties receive e-mails regarding the scheduling and cancelation of hearings.
- Pro Se litigants must file their motion/request in writing and file with the Clerk of Court and mail/email a copy to the opposing party. The Judge will review the motion/request upon receipt from the Clerk of Court.

- **Notice of Hearing:**

- A notice of hearing must be filed and served immediately after approval from Judicial Assistant.
- A notice of hearing involving any remote appearance must list the judge's ZOOM credentials. This information will be sent via JAWS notification, once it has been approved by the Judicial Assistant.
- All notices of hearing must contain the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) notification required by Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.540.

- **Submission Deadlines:**

- The court must receive all materials for the hearing no later than 3 business days before the hearing.

- **Continuance Procedure:**

- Motions for continuance must be filed at least 7 days (criminal cases) prior and 3 days (civil cases) prior to the scheduled court date for which the continuance is sought and must state with specificity: (1) the basis of the need for the continuance, including when the basis became known to the movant; (2) whether the motion is opposed; (3) the action and specific dates for the action that will enable the movant to be ready, including, but not limited to, confirming the specific date any required participants are available; and (4) the proposed date by which the case will be ready to proceed and whether that date is agreed by all parties. Except for good cause shown, the motion must be signed by the party requesting the continuance, as required by Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.545(e).

- **Cancelling Hearings:**

- You must cancel hearings by notifying the judicial assistant immediately. You must also immediately file and serve a notice of cancellation on opposing counsel and any self-represented litigant.

C. Remote Appearance

- **Platform Used:**

- The court uses ZOOM for remote appearances.

- **Platform Meeting ID#:**

- The judicial assistant will provide the ZOOM ID and Passcode via JAWS notification upon approval of hearing time.

- **Requirements for Criminal Court:**

- Non-Evidentiary Pretrial Conference proceedings scheduled for 30 minutes or less may be set via communication technology (ZOOM).
- All parties and attorneys choosing to appear by ZOOM must file a written motion requesting such with the Court and upload/provide a proposed order for the Court to review in advance of the hearing.
- Requests for remote appearance on criminal cases must be submitted 7 days prior to the hearing. Untimely requests to appear remotely, will not be permitted.
- It is the moving party's responsibility to confirm that all counsel/associated parties are in the JAWS database to ensure all

parties receive e-mails regarding the order.

- Any person appearing remotely must be in a private location that is quiet and free from distractions. Under no circumstances will a participant be permitted to appear remotely from a moving vehicle.
 - Any person appearing remotely must dress and behave professionally in the same manner as if physically present in the courtroom.
 - Any person appearing remotely must enable the person's camera when joining the proceeding and keep the camera turned on until instructed otherwise by the court.
 - Any person appearing remotely must mute the person's microphone when joining the proceeding and keep the microphone turned off until instructed otherwise by the court.
 - Any person appearing by ZOOM must log into ZOOM at the beginning of the Court session and be available in the ZOOM waiting room until called. ZOOM appearances will be called at the conclusion of the in-person docket.
 - Any hearing requiring a party or witness to be placed under oath to testify is considered evidentiary and must be done in person. Violations of Probation are in person. All motions to recall capiases or warrants shall be done in person with the defendant present.
- **Requirements for Civil Court:**
 - Non-Evidentiary proceedings scheduled for 30 minutes or less may be set via communication technology (ZOOM).
 - All other proceedings are to be scheduled **in person**. In person hearings will occur at the Robert D. Sumner Judicial Center, 38053 Live Oak Avenue, Dade City, FL 33523.
 - Once the hearing is requested and approved in JAWS, the Judicial Assistant will e-mail a JAWS notification with the ZOOM meeting ID and passcode. This information should be included in the notice of hearing.
 - It is the moving party's responsibility to confirm that all counsel/associated parties are in the JAWS database to ensure all parties receive e-mails regarding the scheduling and cancelation of hearings.

D. Submission of Orders and Judgments

- **Format:**

- All proposed orders must be submitted in PDF and provided to opposing counsel and any self-represented litigant.

- **Submission Method:**

- All proposed orders must be submitted to the court by U.S. mail or hand-delivered to the judicial office or via JAWS in PDF format. When using JAWS, it is important to make sure that all associated party e-mails are connected to the case in order for everyone to receive a conformed copy of the order. In the event you do not have a pro se litigant's e-mail, the conformed copy and attachments, need to be mailed and a follow up certificate of service should be filed through the e-portal.
- Self-represented litigants excused from e-mail service may submit proposed orders to the court by U.S. mail or hand-delivered to the judicial office.

E. Courtesy Copies of Case Law and Other Documents

- **When Required:**

- Courtesy copies of *Case Law and other documents including evidence* may be submitted to the court for any hearing or trial.

- **Submission Method:**

- Courtesy copies must be submitted to the court by U.S. mail or hand-delivered to the judicial office.
- Self-represented litigants excused from e-mail service may submit courtesy copies to the court by U.S. mail or hand-delivery to the judicial office.

Deadline for Submissions:

- Courtesy copies must be submitted to the court no later than 3 days before any hearing or trial.

F. Emergency and Other Urgent Matters

- **Requirements:**

- If a party believes there is a factual basis for setting an emergency hearing, a detailed motion setting forth the following must be filed: (1) the issues to be resolved, (2) reasons why an emergency hearing is necessary, and (3) the amount of time needed for each party's presentation.

- **Scheduling:**

- If the court determines that an emergency exists, a hearing will be scheduled unilaterally by the court. All parties shall make themselves available for the emergency hearing, barring exigent circumstances.

G. Exhibits for Evidentiary Proceedings

- **Submission Method:**

- Hand-deliver or mail all printed exhibits to the clerk of court and the Court.

- **Format:**

- All attorneys and self-represented litigants must bring sufficient copies of each exhibit for the clerk, the court, and each party to review during the hearing or trial.

- **Deadline for Submissions:**

- Exhibits must be received in chambers at least 3 days before the evidentiary proceeding.

- **Other Procedures Relating to Exhibits for Evidentiary Proceedings:**

- The Court does not accept or print electronic filings for evidence.

H. Pretrial Procedures and Conferences

- **Case Management Conference (CMC):**

- Any party may request a CMC when a case requires.
- The court strongly encourages the early use of CMCs in more complex cases, multiple-party litigation, or any case that might benefit from court intervention.

- **Requirements:**
 - Any request for a CMC must articulate the reasons for the necessity of the conference.
- **Scheduling:**
 - If the court grants the request for a CMC, the moving party must schedule the CMC through the online scheduling platform.

I. Setting Case for Trial

- **Mediation**
 - ALWAYS required before trial.
- **Notice Period:**
 - The court does not set date-certain trials. After the case management conference, the court will assign cases to specific days during the trial period and may assign back-up cases. Attorneys, self- represented litigants, parties, and witnesses are expected to be available during the entire trial period.
- **Other Procedures for Setting Case for Trial:**
 - See Administrative Order 2025-012 for detailed procedures.

J. Other Division Procedures

- **ADA Accommodations:**
 - Information on ADA accommodations can be found on the circuit’s website at the following link: jud6.org.
- **Interpreter Requests:**
 - If an interpreter is needed for a hearing or trial, please contact pascointerpreter@jud6.org.
- **Other Division Procedures:**
 - Motions decided on written submissions:** Motions that may be ruled on based on written submissions include, but are not limited to Motions to Strike, Motions to Compel, Motions to Dismiss, Motions to Take Judicial Notice, Motions to Stay, Motions to Reschedule Mortgage Foreclosure Sale, Motions for Continuance, and Motions for Disqualification. Motions for Summary Judgment may not be decided via the written submissions procedure. Please see Administrative Order 2020-012 and Administrative Order 2020-011 for sample forms as to

correspondence, notice and a proposed order.

- **Motion for Attorney's Fees and Tax Costs:** Attorneys must send a copy of their Motion to Tax Costs and Award Attorney's Fees to the Judge's Office. Once received, the Judge will electronically enter an Order Preliminary to hearing. Once the attorneys comply with the Preliminary Order and are ready for a special set hearing, the moving attorney must schedule this in JAWS. However, the Court will not enter its Order Preliminary unless there is a Final Judgment, Stipulation for Dismissal, etc., entered in the case. Fee affidavits are sufficient in lieu of expert testimony IF parties agree.

- **Use of AI:** Please see Judge Compton's standing AI Order requirements for all pleadings and submissions required. Please complete the AI Disclosure and Certification Form per order's instruction below.

**IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**STANDING ORDER ON THE USE OF
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN LEGAL FILINGS AND
COURT SUBMISSIONS**

The Court issues the following Standing Order to ensure the fair, efficient, and truthful administration of justice. The Court recognizes that artificial intelligence (AI) tools can, if used responsibly, aid attorneys and self-represented litigants; however, misuse of such tools can result in inaccurate submissions, fabricated legal authority, unnecessary consumption of judicial resources, and disruption of proceedings.

Accordingly, it is ORDERED AND ADJUDGED as follows:

I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE.

This Standing Order applies to all attorneys appearing before the Court on behalf of clients and all self-represented litigants who submit filings, motions, briefs, memoranda, proposed orders, affidavits, or any other material in written or electronic form intended for consideration by the Court. It shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded by further Order of the Court.

This Order governs the use of generative artificial intelligence tools (“AI tools”), including but not limited to tools used for legal research, drafting, summarizing, or analyzing legal content.

The Court encourages the ethical and judicious use of AI as a supplement to, rather than a substitute for, human judgment and expertise. Litigants are reminded that AI tools may produce biased, incomplete, or erroneous outputs, and ultimate accountability rests with the filer. Nothing in this Order prohibits the use of AI tools.

Instead, the Order establishes standards for disclosure, verification, accuracy, and personal responsibility.

This Order is issued pursuant to the Court's authority under Fla. R. Gen. Prac. & Jud. Admin. 2.515, which requires that every filing be signed and that the signature certifies the filer has read the document, has a good faith basis for its factual and legal content, and is not filing it for an improper purpose.

This Order is also issued pursuant to the Court's inherent authority to control its docket.

This Order incorporates principles reflected in section 57.105, Florida Statutes, which imposes responsibility for asserting legal and factual positions supported by existing law or a good faith argument for change, and authorizes sanctions for unsupported claims. While not identical to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11, these standards similarly require diligence, candor, and accountability.

This Order does not apply to the use of AI proofreading tools that focus on accuracy and clarity without rewriting the core meaning of text, and which do not otherwise violate the provisions of this Order. Such AI tools include those used for spelling, punctuation, word choice, and sentence structure that function as a virtual editor rather than a content creator and do not expose sensitive, confidential, or proprietary information to open AI systems.

II. **DEFINITIONS.**

For purposes of this Standing Order, the following definitions apply:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tool: Any computer software, platform, or system that uses machine learning, large language

models, or algorithmic generation to create text, images, or other content based on user prompts in order to produce text, summarize documents, conduct research, or analyze information. Examples include, but are not limited to, ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, Copilot, Westlaw AI, Lexis+ AI, and similar tools.

Generative AI: Any AI tool capable of generating original text, summaries, explanations, legal analysis, or other content based on user prompts. This includes tools that provide case summaries, draft motions, suggest legal arguments, or create narratives.

Legal Filing or Court Submission: Any motion, pleading, memorandum, response, reply, brief, affidavit, exhibit, proposed order, letter, notice, or other document filed with or submitted to the Court, whether in written or electronic form, as well as any oral representation made during hearings that relies on AI-generated content.

Reasonable Inquiry: A good-faith effort consistent with an attorney's or litigant's obligations under Fla. R. Gen. Prac. & Jud. Admin. 2.515, including personally reading cited cases, verifying statutory references, confirming factual assertions, and ensuring that all representations to the Court have a factual and legal basis. Reliance on AI is not considered reasonable inquiry.

Traditional Legal Research Methods: The process of reviewing primary legal authority directly (cases, statutes, rules, constitutions), consulting secondary sources, and verifying legal propositions using reputable, non-generative sources such as Westlaw, LexisNexis, Fastcase, Caselaw Access Project, Google Scholar (case law), official statutes, or similar resources.

III. **DISCLOSURE OF AI USE.**

Mandatory Disclosure. Any attorney or self-represented litigant who uses an AI tool for:

- Legal research that is reflected in the text of a filing or submission,
- Drafting any portion of a filing or submission, or
- Summarizing legal sources or facts

must include a Disclosure of Artificial Intelligence Use at the end of the filing or submission, or in a separately filed notice for documents not traditionally including a signature block, such as exhibits. The form at Attachment 1, or a form in substantial compliance with this Order, may used for this purpose.

Required Content of Disclosure. The disclosure must:

- Identify each AI tool used by name (*e.g.*, “ChatGPT,” “Lexis+ AI,” “Westlaw AI,” etc.),
- Briefly describe the manner in which the tool was used (*e.g.*, “Used to generate initial draft of legal argument based on provided case summaries” or “Used to research case law on child custody standards”),
- State whether the AI tool generated any text appearing directly in the filed document, and
- Affirm that no confidential or privileged information was inputted into the AI tool.

Failure to disclose AI use when required shall be grounds for sanctions as outlined in Section IX.

IV. CERTIFICATION OF ACCURACY AND PERSONAL REVIEW.

Mandatory Certification. Every filing or submission must include the following certification, at the conclusion of the document or submission immediately above the signature line, signed by the attorney or self-represented litigant in substantially the following form:

“I certify that I have personally reviewed this filing or submission, verified the accuracy of all legal authorities and factual assertions through traditional methods, and conducted a reasonable inquiry into the truth and accuracy of all statements herein.”

Additional Certification When AI Is Used. When an AI tool contributes to any part of a filing or submission, the following additional certification is required:

“I further certify that any text generated or suggested by an artificial intelligence tool has been independently reviewed, confirmed for accuracy and completeness, and corrected as necessary. I understand that reliance on an AI tool does not constitute reasonable inquiry.”

For attorneys, the certification shall be signed by the attorney of record. For self-represented litigants, it shall be signed by the litigant personally. Electronic signatures are permissible pursuant to the Florida Rules of General Practice & Judicial Administration.

Effect of Signature. The Court construes the signature on any filing or submission—whether by an attorney or self-represented litigant—as certification that the signer has conducted a reasonable

inquiry into the truth, accuracy, and legal validity of all statements, citations, arguments, and factual assertions contained therein.

AI Use Does Not Constitute Reasonable Inquiry. Reliance solely or primarily on an AI tool is not presumed to constitute a reasonable inquiry. The filer or submitter bears personal responsibility for ensuring the accuracy and integrity of the filing or submission, regardless of any AI assistance. No attorney or self-represented litigant may rely on an AI tool as a substitute for:

- Reading and verifying case law,
- Confirming statutory citations,
- Validating factual assertions, or
- Understanding the content of the filing.

V. USE OF AN AI DISCLOSURE AND CERTIFICATION FORM.

The form at Attachment 1, or one that substantially complies with that form, may be used by attorneys and self-represented litigants where it is more practical to use a single form in lieu of in-document AI disclosure and certification for each filing or submission.

VI. PROHIBITED USES OF AI TOOLS.

AI tools may not be used to:

- Generate or bolster *ad hominem* attacks, inflammatory rhetoric, or disparaging statements about any party, witness, or judicial officer;
- Fabricate legal authority, facts, or evidence;

- Prepare repetitive or voluminous filings intended to harass, delay, cause unnecessary expense, or disrupt proceedings; or
- Generate medical, psychological, or expert-like conclusions without a qualified human source.

Submissions violating these requirements may result in:

- Orders to strike filings;
- Limitations on future filings;
- Sanctions as permitted by law;
- Referral to The Florida Bar (for attorneys); or
- Contempt proceedings (for any party).

VII. DUTY TO SUPPLEMENT OR CORRECT.

If a party discovers that their filing or submission has inadvertently included AI-generated content, the party must promptly file a Supplemental Notice identifying the inadvertently included material.

If a party discovers that their filing or submission includes inaccurate, false, fabricated, or misleading information that resulted from AI-generated content or otherwise, the party must promptly file a Notice of Correction identifying the corrected material.

VIII. COURT'S DISCRETION.

The Court retains inherent authority to:

- Require supplemental briefing verified without AI

assistance,

- Reject or strike filings inconsistent with this Order,
- Require the filing of affidavits confirming case law authenticity,
- Limit filings by litigants who repeatedly misuse AI or file abusive or misleading documents.

IX. SANCTIONS FOR NON-COMPLIANCE.

Violations of this Order, including its provisions concerning implied certification, may result in sanctions, including but not limited to:

- Evidentiary presumptions against the filer or submitter;
- Adverse inferences;
- Striking the non-compliant filing or submission in whole or in part;
- Requiring the filer or submitter to submit a corrected version with appropriate disclosures and certifications;
- Imposing monetary fines or costs on the filer or submitter;
- Holding the filer or submitter in contempt of court;
- Referring attorneys to The Florida Bar for investigation of potential ethical violations under the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar (*e.g.*, competence, diligence, and candor toward the tribunal);
- In extreme cases, dismissing claims or defenses, or entering

default judgments, where the violation materially prejudices the opposing party or the administration of justice.

X. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Standing Order is effective immediately and applies to all filings or submissions occurring on or after the date signed.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers in Pasco County, Florida, on this 13th day of February, 2026.



Hon. Kent Compton
County Judge

Attachment

**IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Attachment 1.

AI DISCLOSURE AND CERTIFICATION

(Pursuant to Standing Order Regarding the Use of Artificial Intelligence)

Case No.: _____

Division: _____

Judge: _____

I, the undersigned, hereby disclose and certify the following regarding the document(s) listed below [list document(s) to which this disclosure applies (title and filing date if already filed)]:

1. Use of Artificial Intelligence.

Generative artificial intelligence was used as described below:

AI Tool(s) Used (name and version, if known):

Description of How AI Was Used (be specific):

Confidential Information Statement

I affirm that no confidential, privileged, or sealed information from this case was entered into any AI tool.

2. Verification of AI-Generated Content.

I personally reviewed and verified the accuracy of all AI-generated text, legal citations, factual statements, and legal analysis contained in the document(s) using traditional legal research methods (including, but not limited to, Westlaw, LexisNexis, Florida Statutes, official reporters, and the case record).

3. Personal Certification of Accuracy.

I certify that I have personally read the entire document(s) listed above, that I have conducted a reasonable inquiry into the truth and accuracy of all matters contained therein, and that the document(s) contain no known misstatements of law or fact. I understand that reliance solely or primarily on an AI tool does not constitute reasonable inquiry under the Standing Order.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Florida Bar No. (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Certificate of Service

I certify that a true copy of this AI Disclosure and Certification has been furnished by G e-mail G e-Portal G U.S. Mail G hand delivery on this ___ day of _____, 20__ to all parties or their counsel of record.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Instructions for Use

File this form with every pleading, motion, memorandum, or other substantive document or exhibit that used AI. If multiple documents filed on the same day used the same AI tool in the same manner, a single form may cover all of them (list each document above). This form may be combined with the court's standard Certificate of Service when appropriate.

This form satisfies the disclosure and certification requirements of the Standing Order on the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Legal Filings and Submissions.