

County Judge Elizabeth H. Zuroweste  
14250 49<sup>th</sup> St N, Chamber 18  
Clearwater FL 33762  
727-453-7262

## **Judicial Practice Preferences**

### **Division P and Advisories**

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER: The Judicial Assistant CANNOT answer your legal questions, and will not explain your situation to the Judge. **Your opportunity to speak to the Judge happens in Court only.**

It is expected that all parties and attorneys will adhere to Administrative Order No. 2015-052 PA/PI-CIR Re: Standards of Professional Courtesy for the Sixth Judicial Circuit.

### **Advisories**

Misdemeanor Advisories are heard in **court room 23** Monday through Friday at 8:30am.

Felony Advisories are heard in **court room 23** Monday and Friday mornings at 8:30am.

Felony Advisories Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday are heard by the Felony Duty Judge.

An advisory judge cannot set your case on a division judge's calendar. A lawyer must contact the assigned case division judicial assistant to request a court date with the assigned court case judge.

### **Division P**

***County Ordinances and NCPIN cases are heard on Wednesdays in Courtroom 1 at 1:30pm.***

Defendants currently in the Pinellas County Jail will be brought to the court room for County Ordinances.

***Municipal/City Ordinances are heard on Thursdays in Courtroom 1 at 1:30pm.***

Defendants currently in the Pinellas County Jail will be heard via video in Phase II for Municipal Ordinances. Cases set for Non-Jury Trial require Defendant to be brought to court room 1.

**Legal Motions/Hearings/Trials**

1. Motions to Dismiss, Motions to Consolidate, Motions to Suppress, Demand for a Speedy Trial *will not* be heard at the first court date. The first court date is called an Arraignment. At the arraignment, where the prosecuting attorney has the opportunity to be present, all previously filed motions will be set for a hearing. The Court cannot “dismiss the case” at the first court date for any reason (example including but not limited to: police/code officer isn’t present (they aren’t required to be until the case is set for trial), ignorance of the law (didn’t know actions were against the law)).
2. All legal motions must be in writing, filed with the Pinellas County Clerk of Court prior to the Court setting a hearing date.
3. A business, LLC, trust, fictitious entity must be represented by counsel to conduct any legal proceedings, including but not limited to motions, filing of legal documents, and/or trials. *Lakeview Auto Sales v. Lott*, 753 So.2d 723 (Fla. 2nd DCA 2002)
4. **If you are presenting any materials via a laptop or other device, you need to contact the Court Technology Office (CTO) for a testing and /or training session. You will need to bring all your devices with you to the testing/training, so CTO can test the devices with the courtroom presentation system. Please contact CTO at (727) 453-7928 to schedule the testing/training a week or two prior to your hearing.**

### **To Schedule Hearings**

Please call 727-453-7262 and set hearings directly with the Court's Judicial Assistant. If necessary, please leave a message with your name and a number for the office to return your call. You will receive a return call within 24 hours, Monday through Friday or first thing Monday if you call on the weekend.

### **Continuances for Arraignments and Pretrials**

Please call 727-453-7262 to request a continuance of your arraignment or pretrial. The first continuance is granted without a written motion. All additional continuances must be agreed upon between all the parties or a written motion must be filed with a copy to all parties.

### **Continuances for Non-Jury Trials and Motions**

Continuances for Non-Jury Trials and Motion hearings require permission of the Court. The request for a continuance shall be in writing, filed prior to the scheduled hearing and notice provided to the opposing party.

### **Payment of Fines**

The Court allows payment of the fine up to and including the day of any hearings.

### **Outstanding Failure to Appear Warrants from Division P**

The Court will withdraw outstanding failure to appear warrants upon payment in full of the fine without further hearing of the Court. Payments must be presented to the Pinellas County Clerk of Court in person or via telephone at 727-464-7000.