

Rule 100A. Case Management of Domestic Relations Actions.

1 (a) **Case management tracks.** All domestic relations actions, as defined in [Rule 26.1](#), will
2 be set for a case management conference before the court, or a case manager assigned
3 by the court, after an answer to the action is filed. At the case management conference,
4 the court or a case manager assigned by the court must determine into which of the
5 following tracks the case will be placed:

6 (1) Track 1: Standard Track. This category includes all cases that do not require
7 expert witnesses or complex discovery. The court will certify a Track 1 case directly
8 for trial. If the parties have not yet mediated, the court will order the parties to
9 participate in good faith mediation before the trial takes place.

10 (2) Track 2: Complex Discovery Track. This category includes cases with complex
11 issues that require extraordinary discovery, such as valuation of a business. For a
12 Track 2 case, at the case management conference the court will set a discovery
13 schedule with input from the parties and schedule the case for a pretrial hearing.

14 (3) Track 3: Significant Custody Dispute Track. This category includes cases with
15 significant custody disputes, including custody disputes involving allegations of
16 child abuse or domestic violence. For a Track 3 case, at the case management
17 conference the court and parties will address: 1) whether a custody evaluation is
18 necessary, and, if so, the form of the evaluation and appointment considerations;
19 and 2) whether appointment of a private guardian ad litem is necessary, and if so,
20 the scope of the appointment and apportionment of costs. The court will prepare
21 and issue any resulting orders appointing a custody evaluator or guardian ad litem
22 and schedule the case for either a pretrial hearing or a custody evaluation settlement
23 conference.

24 (b) The court may set additional hearings as necessary under Rules 16 or 101. Nothing
25 in this rule prohibits a court from assigning a case to more than one track, at the court's

26 discretion, or otherwise managing a case differently from the above guidelines for good
27 cause.

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