



SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Judge George M. Harmon
District Court

Judge Douglas B. Thomas
District Court

Judge Lyle R. Anderson
District Court

Judge Craig M. Bunnell
Juvenile Court

Judge Mary L. Manley
Juvenile Court

MEMORANDUM

TO: Attorneys Practicing in the Seventh District

FROM: Douglas B. Thomas
Presiding Judge, Seventh Judicial District

DATE: May 2, 2018

RE: Case Management in Domestic Relations Cases

The Seventh District Court is a pilot site for a program in which we will be utilizing a Domestic Case Manager and Case Management Conferences to manage domestic relations cases. The goal of the program is to offer the parties an opportunity to reach early resolution in contested cases by quickly identifying disputed issues and providing a track for the case to proceed.

The Domestic Case Manager will screen all domestic cases in which an answer or petition to modify has been filed and will calendar the case for a Case Management Conference within 30 days of the date the answer is received.

At the initial Case Management Conference, the court will assist parties in identifying disputed issues and determine what discovery is necessary. Any agreements reached will be read into the record and the court will issue an order including stipulated provisions, rulings on motions, discovery and disclosure deadlines, and future hearing dates including a pretrial settlement conference.

The parties will never leave court without a copy of the ruling from that hearing. Counsel should come prepared to assist in drafting that ruling prior to leaving court. The court may direct counsel to prepare a more detailed order to supplement the order signed at the hearing. These orders shall be filed within 14 days of the hearing. In addition, the date of the next hearing will always be set at the conclusion of any hearing until the case is resolved.

The mission of the Utah judiciary is to provide the people an open, fair, efficient, and independent system for the advancement of justice under the law.

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