

DIVISION FIVE POLICY STATEMENT
REGARDING CIVIL JURY TRIAL DATES

Circuit Court Division Five (5) believes in providing civil cases with guaranteed trial dates, and desires to avoid double-booking cases for the same date. Towards that end, a Jury Trial will be scheduled **only** when the case is **ready for trial**. If counsel desires a trial date to obtain scheduling deadlines, the Court will provide the parties with a template Agreed Scheduling Order to be completed by counsel. The Court believes counsel in any given case are more familiar with the issues and are in a better position to gauge when pretrial steps can be completed. If the parties are unable to agree on scheduling deadlines, any party may move for a status hearing whereat the Court will conduct a scheduling hearing like the discovery conference contemplated under FED. R. CIV. P. 26 (f).

When all pretrial scheduling deadlines have been completed, and all dispositive motions, if any, have been decided, the parties may be referred to mediation pursuant to JRP 1303. Thereafter, any party may move the Court for a trial date.

The Court believes this policy will assist in keeping its trial calendar open, and that when a case is, indeed, ready for trial, a more expeditious trial date can be provided, and the parties can be assured that the case will be tried on the date assigned.