

# Continuance/Reset Policy

**Purpose:**

This section outlines the procedures and guidelines for requesting and granting continuances in County Criminal Court #11, with a focus on maintaining an efficient and fair judicial process.

**Scope:**

This policy applies to all trial settings and regular court proceedings within County Criminal Court #11.

**Policy Statement:**

County Criminal Court #11 does not permit automatic continuances for trials. Each party will have the opportunity to select a trial date that is convenient on the court's calendar before it is set. Once a date is chosen, continuances will only be granted at the judge's discretion. For regular court settings, each party is allowed three pass dates, after which any further resets must be approved by the judge.

**Procedures:****1. Trial Continuances:**

- **Selection of Trial Date:** Before setting a trial date, each party will be given the opportunity to choose a date that aligns with their schedules and is convenient on the court's calendar.
- **Granting of Continuances:** Once the trial date has been set, continuances will not be granted automatically. Any request for a continuance must be submitted to the judge, who will consider the request based on the circumstances and in the interest of justice. The judge has sole discretion in granting or denying continuance requests.

**2. Regular Court Setting Resets:**

- **Pass Dates:** Each party is allowed three pass dates for regular court settings, which can be scheduled through the court coordinator. These passes allow for rescheduling without requiring direct approval from the judge.
- **Additional Resets:** After the three pass dates have been used, any request for additional resets must be submitted to the judge. The judge will review the request and decide whether to grant or deny it based on the specific circumstances.

**3. Submission of Requests:**

- All requests for continuances of a trial, must be submitted in writing to the court. The request should clearly state the reasons for the continuance and any supporting documentation.

- The judge will review the submitted requests and notify the parties of the decision in a timely manner.

#### **4. Consideration Factors:**

- When deciding on a request for a continuance, the judge may consider factors such as the reason for the request, the impact on the court's schedule, the rights of the defendant, and the interests of justice.

#### **Responsibility:**

- The court coordinator is responsible for managing the scheduling of pass dates and ensuring that parties are aware of the limits on resets.
- The judge is responsible for reviewing and deciding on all requests for continuances and ensuring that the policy is applied consistently and fairly.

This policy will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary to reflect changes in court procedures or legal requirements