

Types of Hearings

Dismiss for Want of Prosecution (DWOP docket) (Electronic Submission ONLY)

A case pending without action may be placed on the DWOP docket when:

- Service of citation was not filed.
- Service is defective or unsuccessful.
- Defendant's answer was due, but no default was requested by plaintiff.
- A motion for default judgment was filed but contained discrepancies.

The DWOP setting will be cancelled if one of the above actions is corrected.

This is a submission only docket, only electronically submitted documents will be considered.

Pre-Trial Hearing and Mediation (Appearance is required)

Mediation is a process that provides parties to a suit an opportunity to reach their own settlement agreement: an agreement that is mutually acceptable to both parties. In this process, an attorney mediator works as a third-party neutral to guide the mediation process and to assist both sides to come to an agreement that is acceptable to all parties.

Mediation fee is \$60 per party. If you cannot afford this cost, please notify Judge at the time of your hearing.

If parties reach an agreement a final disposition form, such as an agreed judgment or dismissal, may be filed. A notice of settlement or payment plan will **not** close the case, instead a bench trial will be scheduled. The trial will be cancelled if a final disposition form is filed and approved by Judge.

If parties do not reach an agreement, the case will be set for a bench trial or a jury trial (if a jury demand is filed and the \$22 fee is paid by a party).

Notice: This case is set on the court's docket as a dispositive hearing. If any party fails to appear, an order or judgment may be entered against the absent party. This will be in the form of either a judgment for the plaintiff or dismissal for the defendant.

Trial (Appearance is required)

All parties must be prepared for trial when placed on the trial docket. After the defendant answers, the case will be set on a trial docket at the discretion of the judge. The court must send a notice of the date, time, and place of this setting to all parties at their address of record no less than 45 days before the setting date, unless the judge determines that an earlier setting is required in the interest of justice. **In Person Appearance is required.**

Notice: This case is set on the court's docket as a dispositive hearing. If any party fails to appear, an order or judgment may be entered against the absent party. This will be in the form of either a judgment for the plaintiff or dismissal for the defendant.