Walla Walla County Superior Court

Local Rules

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SUPERIOR COURTS AND JUDICIAL OFFICERS
(CR 77(d) and (f))

(A) Departments: Walla Walla County Superior Court consists of two departments. At this time, Judge John W. Lohrmann is Department I and Judge Donald W. Schacht is Department II.

(B) Court Hours: Court is in session, unless otherwise ordered, on all judicial days except Saturdays. Trial hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Counsel shall be present in court ready to proceed at 9:00 a.m. on the first day of a jury trial. In criminal cases, defense counsel shall have the defendant in court at 9:00 a.m. the first day of trial unless the defendant is in custody. If the defendant is in custody, the jail staff shall have the defendant in court by 9:15 a.m. each day of trial.

(C) Christmas recess: From December 20 to January 2 shall be Christmas recess, and no contested cases or matters will be set for trial or tried during said period except by consent of all counsel involved and the court, or by order of the court.

(D) Motion Days:

(1) Dockets: Monday of each week shall be Law and Motion Day for the disposition of issues of law regularly noted and docketed for hearing and for the setting of trial dates for all cases properly noted as hereinafter set forth. The Law and Motion Docket shall alternate between departments. The Court will conduct the Monday docket according to the following schedule:

(a) 9:30 a.m. - Civil and Domestic Relations:

Assignments for trial; civil motions and entry of orders; domestic relations motions and entry of orders.

(b) 1:30 p.m. - Adult Criminal Docket:

Assignments for trial; sentencings; motions and entry of orders; orders to show cause; non-contested probation violation hearings.

(c) 3:00 p.m. - Adult Criminal Docket:

Adult arraignments; change of pleas; omnibus applications; first appearances by summons.

(2) During the months of August through December, on the Wednesday of the week in which Department I hears the Monday Law and Motion Docket, Department II shall hear the Truancy Docket beginning at 8:30 a.m. During the months of January through May, on the Wednesday of the week Department II hears the Monday Law and Motion Docket, Department I shall hear the Truancy Docket

beginning at 8:30 a.m.

(3) On the Friday of the week in which one department hears the Monday Law and Motion Docket, the other department shall hear the Friday Juvenile and Domestic Relations Docket. The Court will conduct the Friday docket according to the following schedule:

(a) 9:30 a.m. - Juvenile Court Docket:

First appearances; arraignments; change of pleas; dispositions; motions; trial assignments.

(b) 11:00 - Paternity Docket:

Every week when Department I has the Monday Law and Motion Docket, the Court Commissioner shall hear all paternity matters so noted.

(c) 1:30 - Domestic Docket:

Non-contested dissolutions; domestic violence protection orders.

(4) The department holding Law and Motion Day on Monday shall, at 8:45 a.m., Monday through Friday, that same week conduct all criminal first appearances on probable cause for adult and juvenile defendants in custody, pretrial release hearings and extradition hearings.

(5) From 1:00 to 1:30 p.m. daily, the department that heard the Monday Docket will that week be available to sign criminal, civil and probate ex parte orders, including, but not limited to agreed orders, orders on hearing where notice of presentment is waived.

(6) From 1:00 to 1:30 p.m. daily, the Court Commissioner shall be available to sign domestic violence temporary protection orders.

(Adopted effective December 1, 2009.)