

**HON. DEBORAH A. CHIMES**

50 Delaware Avenue  
Part 33 - Ninth Floor  
Buffalo, New York 14202  
(716) 845-7201

**Secretary:** Michele Richeal (716) 845-7201 / [mricheal@nycourts.gov](mailto:mricheal@nycourts.gov)  
**Court Clerk Part 33:** Colleen Freiheit: (716) 845-9432 / [cfreihei@nycourts.gov](mailto:cfreihei@nycourts.gov)  
**Confidential Law Clerk:** Jill Tuholski, Esq.: [jtuholsk@nycourts.gov](mailto:jtuholsk@nycourts.gov)

**CONFERENCES:**

A preliminary conference will be held within 45 (forty-five) days of the Court's receipt of a filed RJI. All conferences before the IAS Judge or Law Clerk. At the conference, the Court will issue a Scheduling/Trial Order and where appropriate an ADR referral.

All other conferences per the Scheduling Order or upon request.

Adjournments granted with the consent of all parties, subject to the Court's approval by contacting the Court's Secretary.

**DISCOVERY:**

In Child Victims Act (CVA) and Asbestos cases, discovery is governed in part by the Case Management Order.

**MOTIONS:**

**8th District CVA and general cases:**

2nd and 4th Mondays on submission. Oral argument to be scheduled at the discretion of the Court.

**7th District CVA cases:**

2nd Tuesday of the month on submission. Oral argument to be scheduled at the discretion of the Court.

**Submissions:** All submissions are to be e-filed on New York State Courts Electronic Filing (NYSCEF). All submissions, including replies, must be e-filed no later than the Wednesday prior to the return date. No fax or e-mail submissions are permitted.

**Adjournments:** An adjournment may be granted on consent of all parties, subject to approval by the Court. Motions will not be generally adjourned. Confirmation of an adjournment, with notice of the rescheduled date, must be made in writing to the Court Clerk and all parties.

**Orders:** Only Orders approved by all counsel, with notice of such approval to the Court, should be submitted for signature by uploading the Order to NYSCEF. A copy of the Court's Decision is to be incorporated and attached to the Order where applicable.

**Temporary Restraining Orders:** TROs must be on notice. Requests for TROs on cases assigned to another Judge will be considered only upon prior approval of the IAS Judge or his/her Law Clerk.

**TRIALS:**

Trial dates issued by the Court are for a date certain. Adjournments granted by Judge Chimes only.

**Jury Trials:** Counsel is to report to the Court upon completion of jury selection. Requests to charge, proposed verdict sheets, expert disclosure and pre-marked exhibits and pleadings are to be submitted to the Court two weeks prior to jury selection, unless otherwise directed by the Court. All other matters are governed by the Scheduling and/or Trial Order.

**Bench Trials/Hearings:** Pre-trial briefs, marked exhibits and pleadings are to be submitted to the Court one week prior to commencement. Post-trial briefs are to be submitted two weeks following the close of proof.

**DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC** the Court is conducting bench trials and hearings virtually. Conferences to discuss the logistics of conducting a bench trial or hearing are scheduled at least 6 weeks prior to the hearing/trial date. **ATTORNEYS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO PROCEED WITH THE HEARING AS SCHEDULED.**