

HON. DEBRA A. JAMES Part 59, IAS General Assignment Part, Room 331, 60 Centre Street, Phone: 646-386-3351, Email: 59nyef@nycourts.gov
IAS Part 59 Clerk Dromattie Singh

Oral Argument of Motions by Notice or Order to Show Cause: Via Microsoft Teams, with link provided by IAS Part Clerk, upon direction of the court, or request of counsel, upon transmission of the standard request for conference form to 59nyef@nycourts.gov no less than three days and no more than five days before date set for oral argument.

Preliminary, Compliance and Status Conferences: Via posting on New York State Courts Electronic Filing system (NYSCEF) of a proposed preliminary/compliance/status conference order or proposed competing preliminary/compliance/status conference orders on the date designated by the court, for so-ordering by the court.

Pre-Trial Conferences: Scheduled upon issuance of Trial Scheduling Order about one month prior to trial commencement date.

Jury Trials: In advance of trial commencement date, the court will transmit via 59nyef@nycourts.gov to all counsel of record, jointly or severally, and any unrepresented party, Pre-Trial Information Sheet and Stipulation and Order that require, inter alia, a statement of undisputed facts, prospective motions in limine, list of exhibits with exhibit designations, and estimate of trial days. Such form with attachments must be completed and transmitted via 59nyef@nycourts.gov at least one day before the date set for pre-trial conference. Such pre-trial conference will be conducted via Microsoft Teams, with links sent to the e-mail addresses of all counsel or parties appearing posted on NYSCEF. At least one week before the jury trial commencement date, counsel will be directed to appear for orientation, 60 Centre Street, Room 300.

Bench Trials and Hearings: Via Microsoft Teams or in person, Room 331, which judge will determine on a case-by-case basis. Pre-Trial Conferences will take place via Microsoft Teams.

Appearances: Where indicated, for example, hearing impaired litigant or attorney, in person appearance in courtroom will be granted upon request.

Motions:

After full submission of all papers posted on NYSCEF, contested motions shall be marked fully submitted. If oral argument directed by court or requested by counsel or any unrepresented party, such will take place via Microsoft Teams, upon standard request for conference form transmitted to 59nyef@nycourts.gov. If oral argument conducted on consent or as directed by Judge James, such motions will be marked fully submitted upon completion of oral argument. **Counsel or unrepresented parties may submit letter inquiries re: status of fully submitted motion(s) by letter posted on NYSCEF.**

Adjournments:

If the parties consent to an adjournment of submission of proposed discovery conference orders or deadlines thereunder or to a briefing schedule concerning proceedings or motions by Notice or OSC, a stipulation setting forth such agreement shall be posted on NYSCEF for so-ordering by the court.

Stipulations: Written agreements, including but not limited to withdrawal of motions, discontinuance or settlement of actions or proceedings, shall be posted on NYSCEF for so-ordering by the court.

Disputes Concerning Discovery Conference Orders:

Motions to compel compliance with discovery conference orders or discovery demands are generally disfavored by the court. If counsel are unable to resolve a discovery dispute through good faith efforts (see Uniform Rule § 202.7 [a]), within any applicable discovery deadline, i.e., in advance/anticipation of any party's failure to meet such deadline, the aggrieved party shall contact the court by concise e-mail message specifically describing the discovery sought/ordered to 59nyef@nycourts.gov with cc: to all counsel or self-represented litigant, and, where best efforts are unsuccessful, transmit the standard request for conference form to 59nyef@nycourts.gov to schedule a conference via Microsoft Teams. Counsel may request rulings on deposition disputes by conference call (646-386-3352), or if the court is unavailable, by presenting a transcript of pertinent excerpts of such deposition with the next proposed discovery conference order.

Miscellaneous There will be **no ex parte communications** with the court, except in accordance with OSCs seeking relief in accordance with Uniform Rule § 202.7(f). **Under no circumstances should any motion papers, documents or any other correspondence pertaining to a case pending before the court be transmitted to the justice's individual e-mail address.**