IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

*Administrative Order 2025-25-Civ*

**CIRCUIT CIVIL FIRST PARTY PROPERTY LOSS CASES**

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(a) Pursuant to Article V, section 2(d) of the Florida Constitution, and section 43.26, Florida Statutes, the chief judge of each judicial circuit is charged with the authority and the power to do everything necessary to promote the prompt and efficient administration of justice.

(b) Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.215(b)(3) states the chief judge "ensures the efficient and proper administration of all courts within [this] circuit, considering available resources."

(c) Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.200(d) requires a case management order for case management conferences for the Circuit. The Circuit Civil division judges determined it is appropriate to utilize a uniform case management order and uniform trial order specific to first party property loss cases (i.e., storm, hurricane, water loss, and plumbing cases).

(d) In accordance with the authority vested in the Chief Judge by Article V, section 2(d) of the Florida Constitution, section 43.26, Florida Statutes, and Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.215, it is hereby **ORDERED**:

(1) All Circuit Civil cases involving first party property loss claims will use the attached "Uniform Case Management Order for Circuit Civil First Party Property Loss Cases" attached to this Administrative Order as Exhibit "A" and "Uniform Trial Order for Circuit Civil First Party Property Loss Cases" attached as Exhibit "B". The Uniform Case Management Order and Uniform Trial Order shall be posted on the website for the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit. The Uniform Case Management Order and Uniform Trial Order may be amended from time to time without further amendment of this Administrative Order.

(2) To delineate these first party property loss claims from other circuit civil claims, the Clerk of Court shall designate these case types using the prefix "CAPL."

(3) Nothing in this Administrative Order shall preclude any Circuit Civil judge from utilizing the attached forms or any other uniform trial order forms utilized by the Circuit Civil Division.

This Administrative Order vacates and supersedes Administrative Order 2023-9-Civ (Amendments 1, 2, and 3) and all prior inconsistent Administrative Orders. The Exhibits to this Administrative Order may be amended from time to time without the necessity of amending the Administrative Order.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers, Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida on this 24th day of July, 2025.

/s/ Carol-Lisa Phillips
Carol-Lisa Phillips, Chief Judge

# EXHIBIT "A"

# UNIFORM CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER
# (CIRCUIT CIVIL FIRST PARTY PROPERTY LOSS CASES)
# (i.e.: Storm, Hurricane, Water Loss, and Plumbing Cases)

**ALL PARTIES MUST READ CAREFULLY/STRICT COMPLIANCE IS MANDATORY**

THE DEADLINES LISTED HEREIN **MUST** BE **STRICTLY ENFORCED** UNLESS CHANGED BY COURT ORDER. STRICT COMPLIANCE MEANS NO CONTINUANCES OR EXTENSIONS WILL BE GRANTED WITHOUT COURT ORDER UPON WRITTEN MOTION SETTING FORTH GOOD CAUSE, PURSUANT TO IN RE: AMEND. TO FLA. R. CIV. P., NO. SC23-0962 (December 5, 2024), FLA. R. CIV. P. 1.200, FLA. R. CIV. P. 1.460, AND FLA. R. GEN. PRAC. & JUD. ADMIN. 2.545(e).

FAILURE TO ATTEND A MANDATORY CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE MAY RESULT IN THE COURT DISMISSING THE ACTION, ENTERING A DEFAULT, STRIKING THE PLEADINGS, LIMITING PROOF OF WITNESSES, OR ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE ACTION AGAINST THE PARTY FAILING TO ATTEND. (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.200(j)(6)).

THIS CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER SUPERSEDES ANY PRIOR CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER ENTERED IN THIS CASE.

This case has been designated to the **GENERAL CIVIL TRACK**. The deadlines established by this Order are to ensure the case is disposed of within 18 months from the date of service of initial process on the last defendant or 120 days after commencement of the action as provided in rule 1.050, whichever occurs first. Accordingly, the following procedures and deadlines shall be strictly observed by the parties and enforced by the court:

1. SCHEDULING OF A MANDATORY CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE:

   ☐(Applicable if checked): A **MANDATORY** Case Management Conference will be held on zoom (_____) or in Courtroom _____ on _____ at _____ am/pm.

   During the case management conference, the Court may elect to hear any pending motion, even if the parties have not identified the motion as an issue to be resolved. Motions for summary judgment and matters requiring an evidentiary hearing may not be heard unless agreed to by the parties and the court. (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.200(j)(2)).

   **On any matters ruled upon, unless otherwise ordered, within five (5) days following the Case Management Conference, counsel for Plaintiff(s) shall prepare an order pursuant to Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.200(j)(5).**

2. COMPLAINT: The Complaint shall be served within 120 days of filing. Failure to perfect service within 120 days shall subject the action to dismissal without prejudice or dropping of that party as a defendant. If plaintiff shows good cause or excusable neglect for failure to serve within 120 days, the court shall extend the time for service for an appropriate period. (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.070(j)).

3. NOTICE OF SERVICE OF COMPLAINT: Upon service of the complaint on the last of all named defendants in a civil action, the plaintiff will file a Notice of Service and provide a courtesy copy of the Notice of Service to the assigned trial judge. A fillable PDF form "Notice of Service" is available on the Circuit's webpage (www.17th.flcourts.org).

4. TRIAL: Trial will be set in accordance with Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.440. The court will issue a separate Uniform Trial Order scheduling Calendar Call and setting the Trial Period. The action no longer needs to be "at issue" prior to the case being set for trial. The failure of the pleadings to be closed will not preclude the court from setting a case for trial. (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.440).

5. INITIAL DISCOVERY DISCLOSURES:

   A. Parties must make initial discovery disclosures required by Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.280 **within 60 days after the service of the complaint or joinder**, unless a different time is set by court order. Pursuant to Local Rule 10A, a party may file a motion for ex parte relief where no motion for extension of time has been filed and the nonmoving party has completely failed to comply with Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.280(a).

   B. A party may not seek discovery from any source before that party's initial disclosures are served on the other party, except when authorized by stipulation or by court order. (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.280(f)(1)).

   C. As set forth in Rule 1.280(a)(1), initial discovery disclosures include:
      1. The name and, if known, the address, telephone number, and e-mail address of each individual likely to have discoverable information--along with the subjects of that information--that the disclosing party may use to support its claims or defenses, unless the use would be solely for impeachment;
      2. A copy--or a description by category and location--of all documents, electronically stored information, and tangible things that the disclosing party has in its possession, custody, or control (or, if not in the disclosing party's possession, custody, or control, a description by category and location of such information) and may use to support its claims or defenses, unless the use would be solely for impeachment;
      3. A computation for each category of damages claimed by the disclosing party and a copy of the documents or other evidentiary material, unless privileged or protected from disclosure, on which each computation is based, including materials bearing on the nature and extent of injuries suffered; provided that a party is not required to provide computations as to noneconomic damages, but the party must identify categories of damages claimed and provide supporting documents; and
      4. A copy of any insurance policy or agreement under which an insurance business may be liable to satisfy all or part of a possible judgment in the action or to indemnify or reimburse for payments made to satisfy the judgment.

   D. A party who has made a disclosure under this rule or who has responded to an interrogatory, a request for production, or a request for admission **must** supplement or correct its disclosure or response: (a) in a timely manner if the party learns that in some

material respect the disclosure or response is incomplete or incorrect, and if the additional or corrective information has not otherwise been made known to the other parties during the discovery process or in writing; or (b) as ordered by the court. (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.280(g)).

6. NOTICE OF RELATED CASE(S) (i.e., cases involving the same parties, same subject matter or incident, or same property at issue): The Parties shall file a Notice of Related Case(s) within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order identifying any and all related cases.

7. ATTORNEY/PRO SE PARTY PREPARATION: Attorneys and self-represented litigants who appear at a case management conference **MUST** be prepared on the pending matters in the case, be prepared to make decisions about future progress and conduct of the case, and have authority to make representations to the court and enter into binding agreements concerning motions, issues, and scheduling. If a party is represented by more than 1 attorney, the attorney(s) present at a case management conference must be prepared with all attorneys' availability for future events. (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.200(j)(3)).

8. CASE MANAGEMENT DEADLINES:

   A. **DEADLINES IN THIS CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER MUST BE STRICTLY ENFORCED UNLESS CHANGED BY COURT ORDER FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN. (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.200(e)(1)).**

   B. Notices of unavailability and/or inability to comply with the deadlines have no effect on the case management deadlines set by this order. If a party is unable to comply with a deadline, including due to the unavailability of hearing time, the party must take action consistent with Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.200(e)(1). (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.200(f)-(g)).

9. CASE MANAGEMENT AND TRIAL DEADLINES:

The following deadlines apply unless otherwise modified by the Court.

| | EVENTS | COMPLETION DEADLINE |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Service of Complaint | 120 days from filing; Service under extension is only by court order. |
| 2. | Resolution of all motions/objections directed to the pleadings *(i.e. to dismiss or strike)* | 120 days before Calendar Call<br>(must be set within 10 days of filing to be heard within 60 days) |
| 3. | Pleading Amendments/Adding New Parties | 120 days before Calendar Call |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4. | Disclosure of Fact Witnesses/Lists | 150 days before Calendar Call |
| 5. | Disclosure of Expert Witnesses/Lists | 120 days before Calendar Call |
| 6. | Disclosure of Rebuttal Witnesses/Lists | 100 days before Calendar Call |
| 7. | Completion of all Discovery (including expert discovery) | 30 days before Calendar Call<br>(must be initiated 90 days before Calendar Call) |
| 8. | Filing of all Dispositive Motions and Motions for Summary Judgment | 90 days before Calendar Call |
| 9. | Expert Challenges and Deposition Objections | 45 days before Calendar Call<br>(must be filed and heard) |
| 10. | Filing of all Pretrial Motions (including Motions in Limine) | 30 days before Calendar Call |
| 11. | Depositions | (i) Plaintiff within 75 days of filing of answer;<br>(ii) Field Adjuster within 90 days of filing of answer; and<br>(iii) Corporate Representative within 120 days of filing of answer |
| 12. | Requests for Entry Upon Land | Within 90 days of filing of the answer |
| 13. | Deposition Designations | 20 days before Calendar Call |
| 14. | Deadline for Mediation | 60 days before Calendar Call |
| 15. | Deadline for Non-Binding Arbitration (if case does not settle at Mediation) | 45 days before Calendar Call |

10. WITNESS LISTS:

**A. NO LATER THAN ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY (150) DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL:**

Fact Witnesses:
Parties must file and serve a list of names and addresses of all fact witnesses who are expected to testify at trial. Each party's fact witness list must include a brief description of the substance and scope of the testimony to be elicited from such witness. Both sides must cooperate in the scheduling of such witness depositions.

**B. NO LATER THAN ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY (120) DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL:**

Expert Witnesses:

1. At the time of disclosure of all expert witnesses, the parties shall file and serve the names and addresses of all expert witnesses to be called at trial, including their complete and updated curriculum vitae, and all information regarding expert testimony that is required by Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.280(c)(5). Parties shall furnish opposing counsel with two (2) alternative dates of availability of all expert witnesses for the purpose of taking their deposition. Both parties shall cooperate in the scheduling of expert depositions.

2. The parties shall also provide answers to standard form expert interrogatories pursuant to Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.280(c)(5). All reports or other data compiled by each disclosed expert which is intended to be used by the expert and/or referred to during his/her deposition testimony shall be provided electronically to the opposing party at least 72 hours prior to the date of the scheduled deposition.

**C. NO LATER THAN ONE HUNDRED (100) DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL:**

Rebuttal Witnesses:
Parties must file and serve a list of names and addresses of any rebuttal witnesses within one hundred (100) days prior to Calendar Call.

11. DISCOVERY DEADLINES**:**

**A. DEPOSITIONS SHALL BE SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Plaintiff shall be set and completed within seventy-five (75) days of filing the answer.
2. The Field Adjuster shall be set and completed within ninety (90) days of filing the answer.
3. The Corporate Representative shall be set and completed within one hundred-twenty (120) days of filing the answer.

Depositions shall be taken in the order stated in section (A), unless the parties agree to a different scheduling order. However, the depositions shall be completed within the above deadlines.

**B. Requests for Entry Upon Land shall be completed within ninety (90) days of filing of the answer.**

**C. NO LATER THAN NINETY (90) DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL:**

All final discovery must have been initiated at least ninety (90) days prior to Calendar Call.

**D. NO LATER THAN THIRTY (30) DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL:**

Parties must complete all discovery, including expert discovery in accordance with Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.280(c)(5), at least thirty (30) days prior to Calendar Call. Discovery conducted after this time period is strongly disfavored and will only be permitted by order of the Court under exceptional circumstances.

**E. ELECTRONICALLY STORED INFORMATION (ESI) DISCOVERY:**

ESI discovery procedures are governed by Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Administrative Order 2021-20-Gen, a copy of which is available on the Circuit's webpage (www.17th.flcourts.org).

12. MOTIONS:

**A. CONFERRAL PRIOR TO FILING MOTIONS:**

Before filing a non-dispositive motion, the movant **MUST** confer with the opposing party in a good-faith effort to resolve the issues raised in the motion **AND** at the end of the motion and above the signature block, the movant **MUST** include a certificate of conferral. (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.202(a)-(b)). **The parties are expected to confer and attempt to resolve the issues raised in the motion before reserving hearing time**.

The requirements of rule 1.202 do not apply when the movant or the nonmovant is unrepresented by counsel (pro se). (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.202(c)).

**B. NO LATER THAN ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY (120) DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL:**

1. Motions to Add a Party or Parties or to Amend the Pleadings: must be filed and set for hearing no later than one hundred and twenty (120) days before Calendar Call absent good cause shown. The deadline shall not conflict with Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.190(e), and the motion may be denied if there has been undue delay, bad faith, prejudice to the opposing side, dilatory motive on the part of the moving party or when the amendment would be futile.

2. Motions/Objections Directed to the Pleadings: all objections to the pleadings must be filed and set for hearing no later than one hundred and twenty (120) days before Calendar Call. **The motion/objection MUST be set within ten (10) days of filing of the motion/objection to be heard within sixty (60) days**.

**C. NO LATER THAN NINETY (90) DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL:**

1. Motions for Summary Judgment and other Dispositive Motions: must be filed no later than ninety (90) days before Calendar Call. Motions for summary judgment will not be heard at or after Calendar Call unless approved by the court. If the Court has granted the parties' request for a hearing on the motion, but a hearing is not available prior to the deadline, the parties shall submit the fully briefed motion and opposition (if any) to the court prior to the expiration of the deadline, and the court can rule on those motions

on the papers. Failure to timely submit the paperwork to the court will deem those motions abandoned.

2. Response to Motion for Summary Judgment: the response and supporting factual position must be served no later than forty (40) days after service of the motion for summary judgment. (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.510(c)(5)).

**D. NO LATER THAN FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL:**

1. Expert Challenges: motions challenging an expert witness ("Expert Challenges"), must be filed and heard no later than forty-five (45) days before Calendar Call.

2. Deposition Objections: objections raised in depositions expected to be introduced at trial must be filed and heard no later than forty-five (45) days before Calendar Call.

**E. NO LATER THAN THIRTY (30) DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL:**

1. Motions in Limine: must be filed no later than thirty (30) days prior to Calendar Call. If the Court has granted the parties' request for a hearing on the motion, but a hearing is not available prior to the deadline, the parties shall submit the fully briefed motion and opposition (if any) to the court prior to the expiration of the deadline, and the court can rule on those motions on the papers. Failure to timely submit the paperwork to the court will deem those motions abandoned.

2. Pretrial Motions: must be filed and heard no later than thirty (30) days prior to Calendar Call. All motions, other than motions in limine, not heard before Calendar Call will be deemed abandoned.

**F. NO LATER THAN TWENTY (20) DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL:**

1. Deposition Designations: no later than twenty (20) days prior to Calendar Call, each party must serve designation of depositions, or portions of depositions, each intends to offer as testimony.

13. JOINT PRETRIAL STIPULATION:

**A. NO LATER THAN TEN (10) DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL:**

1. The Joint Pretrial Stipulation contemplates a single document that must be filed and served, **with a courtesy copy served on the undersigned judge**, no later than ten (10) days prior to Calendar Call.

2. The Joint Pretrial Stipulation requires that all agreed matters be fully identified and any disputed matters be specifically delineated with respect to each party.

**B. THE JOINT PRETRIAL STIPULATION MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING IN SEPARATELY NUMBERED PARAGRAPHS:**

1. Statement of the Facts: A concise, impartial statement of the facts of the case.

2. Stipulated Facts: A list of those facts that can be stipulated and require no proof at trial.
3. Statement of Disputed Law and Fact: A concise, impartial statement of those issues of law and fact that are to be tried.
4. Exhibit Lists: Each party must separately list all exhibits they intend to introduce into evidence. Each item must be listed by number and description on a separate schedule attached to the Joint Pretrial Stipulation. Each exhibit must be specifically described. **Generic descriptions of exhibits are subject to being stricken.** If any party objects to the introduction of any such exhibit, such objection **must be stated in the Joint Pretrial Stipulation**, setting forth the grounds with specificity. All exhibits must have been made available to all parties for examination no later than ten (10) days before Calendar Call. Parties must initial each other's exhibit lists and exhibits. **At trial, only those exhibits properly listed and initialed may be offered into evidence**.
5. Demonstrative Exhibits: all demonstrative exhibits (e.g., charts, graphs, enlargements of exhibits, etc.) intended to be used at a jury trial must be displayed to all parties at least ten (10) days before Calendar Call. **Objections to a demonstrative exhibit must be disclosed in the pretrial stipulation or will be deemed waived.**
6. Witness Lists: Parties must furnish a written list containing the names and addresses of all witnesses intended to be called at trial in alphabetical order. Such list must designate the type of witness ("expert," "rebuttal," "impeachment," or otherwise) and must be attached to the Joint Pretrial Stipulation. All fact witness lists must include a brief description of **the substance and scope of the testimony** to be elicited from such witness. All expert witness lists must **designate the expert's specialties**. If any party objects to any witness, such objection must be stated in the Joint Pretrial Stipulation, setting forth the grounds with specificity. **At trial, only those witnesses properly and timely disclosed will be permitted to testify**.
7. Jury Instructions: If the trial is a jury trial, the parties must identify all agreed upon standard instructions and all special instructions. Copies of all agreed upon jury instructions and disputed jury instructions must be attached to the Joint Pretrial Stipulation identifying the party that proposed the instruction, along with copies of supporting statutory citations and/or case law.
8. Verdict Forms: If the trial is a jury trial, the jury verdict form must be designated as "agreed to" or "disputed" and must be attached to the Joint Pretrial Stipulation.
9. Peremptory Challenges: If the trial is a jury trial, the number of peremptory challenges for each party must be stated and attached to the Joint Pretrial Stipulation.
10. Pending Motions: Parties must set forth a list of all pending motions with copies attached to the Joint Pretrial Stipulation.
11. Trial Estimate: Each party must provide an estimate of the number of trial days required for presenting its side of the case.
12. Expert Challenges: All motions challenging an expert witness must be filed and heard no later than forty-five (45) days before Calendar Call. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF ANY EXPERT RELATED EVIDENCE ISSUE(S). It is within the discretion of the Court to remove any case with pending expert issues.

14. COURT POLICIES**:**

A. Parties must do all things reasonable and necessary to assure the availability of witnesses for the entire Trial Period or to otherwise preserve witness testimony for trial as provided by the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure. *See* Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.300 & 1.460; *see also* Fla. R. Gen. Prac. & Jud. Admin. 2.545.

B. The requirements of this Order cannot be waived by stipulation **absent prior approval from the Court** pursuant to written agreement between the parties.

C. This Order may be tailored by the assigned Division Judge to conform to the particular requirements of the residential foreclosure and complex litigation divisions.

D. At trial, there will only be one (1) official record transcribed by one (1) court reporter. Plaintiff is responsible for arranging for a court reporter unless otherwise agreed to by the parties. If a conflict exists, the parties must resolve it among themselves prior to Calendar Call.

15. TRIAL CONTINUANCES**:**

A. The parties must satisfy the requirements of Rule 1.460 to change the trial period.

**B. A motion to continue is disfavored and will rarely be granted. No continuances will be granted without Court Order upon written motion setting forth good cause pursuant to In re: Amend. to Fla. R. Civ. P., No. SC23-0962 (December 5, 2024), Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.460, and Fla. R. Gen. Prac. & Jud. Admin. 2.545(e). All motions seeking a continuance must comply with Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.460 and Fla. R. Gen. Prac. & Jud. Admin. 2.545.**

C. A motion to continue trial must be in writing unless made at trial and, except for good cause shown, must be signed by the named party requesting the continuance. The motion must be filed promptly after the appearance of good cause to support such motion. Failure to properly request a continuance may be a basis for denying the motion to continue. (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.460(b)-(c) and Fla. R. Gen. Prac. & Jud. Admin. 2.545(e)).

D. All motions for continuance, even if agreed, must state with specificity as set forth in rule 1.460(d).

E. **NO** CONTINUANCES will be granted based on the lack of due diligence in preparing for trial.

F. **NO** CONTINUANCES will be granted for reasons that should have been readily apparent to the parties when this Order was issued.

G. **NO** CONTINUANCES will be granted if expert witnesses are unavailable because testimony may be preserved by deposition.

H. **NO** CONTINUANCES will be granted for reasons relating to the failure to follow this Order.

I. If a continuance is granted based on the dilatory conduct of an attorney or named party, the court may consider imposing sanctions on the attorney, the party, or both.

16. MANDATORY MEDIATION & NON-BINDING ARBITRATION:

A. Mandatory Mediation: must commence no later than sixty (60) days prior to Calendar Call. The parties must comply with Florida Rules of Civil Procedure 1.700, 1.710, 1.720, and 1.730 as to the conduct of mediation. The parties may attend mediation through the use of communication technology (remotely) if mutually agreed upon. The Court will resolve any disagreement as to where or how mediation is to be conducted. Plaintiff's counsel is appointed lead counsel to facilitate and schedule the settlement conference with the mediator and all parties.

The Court appoints: _____ as Mediator, unless, within thirty (30) days of service of initial process on the last defendant or thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, whichever occurs later, the parties choose a different Mediator, and file notice of that choice and the name of the substitute mediator with the Clerk of Court. Failure to attend mediation may result in sanctions. **If the case does not resolve at Mediation, Non-Binding Arbitration is to be completed forty-five (45) days prior to Calendar Call**.

17. SANCTIONS: All parties should be familiar with Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.380 entitled "Failure to Make Discovery; Sanctions" and section 57.105, Florida Statutes, entitled "Attorney's fee; sanctions for raising unsupported claims or defenses; exceptions; service of motions; damages for delay of litigation."

FAILURE TO APPEAR, FAILURE TO FOLLOW TIME REQUIREMENTS, OR FAILURE TO FILE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY THIS COURT MAY RESULT IN THE DISMISSAL OF THE ACTION OR THE IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS INCLUDING THE STRIKING OF PLEADINGS.

18. SETTLEMENT NOTIFICATION: Parties must immediately notify the Court in the event of settlement and submit a stipulation for an Order of Dismissal. Parties shall also cancel any and all pending hearings as a result of the settlement.

19. COMPLIANCE WITH DIVISIONAL PROCEDURES: Attorneys and self-represented litigants are required to read and comply with the division's procedures located on the 17th Judicial Circuit Court's Website (www.17th.flcourts.org). Failure to do so may result in appropriate sanctions, as permitted by law.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this _____ day of _____, _____.

_____

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

**If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Room 20140, 201 S.E. 6th Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301, 954-831-7721 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately on receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.**

# EXHIBIT "B"

# UNIFORM TRIAL ORDER/SETTING CASE FOR TRIAL (CIRCUIT CIVIL FIRST PARTY PROPERTY LOSS CASES) (i.e.: Storm, Hurricane, Water Loss, and Plumbing Cases)

**ALL PARTIES MUST READ CAREFULLY/STRICT COMPLIANCE IS MANDATORY**

THE UNIFORM TRIAL DATE LISTED HEREIN IS A **FIRM** TRIAL DATE AND DEADLINES **MUST** BE **STRICTLY ENFORCED** UNLESS CHANGED BY COURT ORDER. STRICT COMPLIANCE MEANS NO CONTINUANCES OR EXTENSIONS WILL BE GRANTED WITHOUT COURT ORDER UPON WRITTEN MOTION SETTING FORTH GOOD CAUSE, PURSUANT TO IN RE: AMEND. TO FLA. R. CIV. P., NO. SC23-0962 (December 5, 2024), FLA. R. CIV. P. 1.200, FLA. R. CIV. P. 1.460, AND FLA. R. GEN. PRAC. & JUD. ADMIN. 2.545(e).

FAILURE TO ATTEND CALENDAR CALL MAY RESULT IN THE COURT DISMISSING THE ACTION, ENTERING A DEFAULT, STRIKING THE PLEADINGS, LIMITING PROOF OF WITNESSES, OR ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE ACTION AGAINST THE PARTY FAILING TO ATTEND.

THIS UNIFORM TRIAL ORDER SUPERSEDES ANY PRIOR UNIFORM TRIAL ORDER ENTERED IN THIS CASE.

**TRIAL PERIOD COMMENCING:** _____.

**CALENDAR CALL:** _____.

## I. ORDER OF TRIALS:

Parties are subject to being called to commence trial during any portion of the above noted Trial Period, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

## II. TRIAL DATE:

The Court has determined this case is ready for trial pursuant to Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.440. This case is set for trial before the undersigned Judge in Courtroom _____ , Broward County Courthouse, 201 S.E. 6th Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, 33301, as stated above.

## III. CIVIL TRIAL POOL:

Parties are advised that this case may be placed into the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Court's "Civil Trial Pool" and is subject to being called for trial before any judge. If placed in the Civil Trial Pool, **parties must be prepared to proceed to trial if called.** Only the Division Judge or the Administrative Judge of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Court's Civil Division may grant a continuance of any case placed in the Civil Trial Pool.

## IV. TRIAL CONTINUANCES:

A. The parties must satisfy the requirements of Rule 1.460 to change the trial period.

**B. A motion to continue is disfavored and will rarely be granted. No continuances will be granted without Court Order upon written motion setting forth good cause pursuant to In re: Amend. to Fla. R. Civ. P., No. SC23-0962 (December 5, 2024), Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.460, and Fla. R. Gen. Prac. & Jud. Admin. 2.545(e). All motions seeking a continuance must comply with Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.460 and Fla. R. Gen. Prac. & Jud. Admin. 2.545.**

C. A motion to continue trial must be in writing unless made at trial and, except for good cause shown, must be signed by the named party requesting the continuance. The motion must be filed promptly after the appearance of good cause to support such motion. Failure to properly request a continuance may be a basis for denying the motion to continue. (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.460(b)-(c) and Fla. R. Gen. Prac. & Jud. Admin. 2.545(e)).

D. All motions for continuance, even if agreed, must state with specificity as set forth in rule 1.460(d).

E. **NO** CONTINUANCES will be granted based on the lack of due diligence in preparing for trial.

F. **NO** CONTINUANCES will be granted for reasons that should have been readily apparent to the parties when this Order was issued.

G. **NO** CONTINUANCES will be granted if expert witnesses are unavailable because testimony may be preserved by deposition.

H. **NO** CONTINUANCES will be granted for reasons relating to the failure to follow this Order.

I. If a continuance is granted based on the dilatory conduct of an attorney or named party, the court may consider imposing sanctions on the attorney, the party, or both.

**V. <u>COMPLIANCE WITH THE CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER</u>**:

Parties are required to strictly comply and adhere to the deadlines and requirements set forth in the Case Management Order. Strict compliance of the Case Management Order and the Uniform Trial Order is **<u>MANDATORY</u>**. Failure to comply may result in appropriate sanctions, including, but not limited to, dismissal of the action or striking of pleadings, or any other sanctions as permitted by law. (Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.200(j)(6)).

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this _____ day of _____, _____.

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CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

**If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Room 20140, 201 S.E. 6th Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301, 954-831-7721 at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately on receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.**