

## **Family Court Enhancement Project Pilot**

### **Domestic Abuse Calendar and Domestic Abuse Calendar with Child Related Relief**

The Family Court Enhancement Project (FCEP) is a federal project funded by the Office on Violence Against Women. Broadly, the goal of the FCEP is to improve family court outcomes (specifically custody and parenting time arrangements) for victims of domestic violence and their children. In an effort to address that goal, the FCEP has created a pilot calendar that will include Order for Protection hearings in which Child-Related Relief is sought.

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| <b>Domestic Calendars</b> – Family Court attempts to have six (6) Domestic Calendars per week. Three (3) of those calendars are DA and three (3) are DR. When Holidays fall during the regularly scheduled calendars, an attempt will be made to make up calendars. |
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| <b>DA</b> = Domestic Calendar; held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday |
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| <b>DR</b> = Domestic Calendar with Child-Related Relief; held Monday, Tuesday and Thursday |
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#### Calendar Guidelines:

Set on DR Calendar if Petition requests any of the following (Child-Related Relief):

- Temporary custody of the joint minor child(ren)
- Child support for the joint minor child(ren)
- Temporary parenting time of the joint minor child(ren)
- Financial support for child support or medical support/health for the child(ren)
- Financial support for child care costs of joint child(ren)
- Financial support for health insurance for joint child(ren)
- Respondent attend counseling, treatment, or other social services (including domestic abuse program, chemical dependency, mental health) if parties have joint child(ren)

Set on DA Calendar if Petition does not requests any of the above, even if the Petition is on behalf of a child.

#### \*General Pilot Timing Guidelines:

**Initial Setting:** 5-7 days (NEVER more than 7)

**SAMS:** minimum 14 days

**Amend:** minimum 18 days

**Extend:** minimum 7 (ensure order won't expire)

**Dismissal:** typically 7 days (flexibility in scheduling, see Discretionary Settings)

**Request for Hearing:** must be set within 10 days of request, must give petitioner 5 day notice

**Note:** Set on DR Calendar if there are minor children in common noted on the Petition (even if there is no child-related relief requested in the Petition).

\*These guidelines provide general guidance for the child-related relief pilot and are not intended to replace the Family Court Procedure Manual's DASC Guidelines for State Forms, Timeframes, and Service.

#### Discretionary Settings:

Child-Related Relief cases should be set on Tuesday or Thursday whenever practical.

Non-Child-Related Relief cases should be set on Tuesday or Wednesday whenever practical.

#### Hearing Entry:

Comment: 'DA' or 'DR' for future reference.