STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA **IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE**

15B JUDICIAL DISTRICT **SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION**

26R000270-090

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REGARDING CONTINUANCE POLICY

It is the policy of this Court to provide justice for citizens without unnecessary delay and without undue waste of time and other resources of the Court, the litigants, and other case participants. For all case types and dockets, and in all courtrooms, the Court looks with strong disfavor on motions or requests to continue court events. In order to protect the credibility of scheduled trial dates, trial-date continuances are especially disfavored.

Now therefore, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Except in unusual circumstances, any continuance motion or request shall be in writing, and filed not later than 48 hours before the court event for which rescheduling is requested. Whenever possible, continuance motions or requests shall be made using the appropriate forms issued by the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (attached hereto), which include:

    a. AOC-CV-221 for motions to continue civil superior cases; and
    b. AOC-CV-410 for motions to continue criminal superior cases

2. Any attorney or party requesting a continuance shall state the reason for the request.

3. Continuances on agreement of counsel or the parties shall not be automatically granted.

4. The Court shall grant continuance only for a good cause shown unless otherwise provided by law.

5. Continuances of cases more than 12 months old or that have been previously continued are specifically disfavored and shall be granted only in extra ordinary circumstances.

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[1] State law specifies the factors that judges must consider when ruling on pretrial continuance requests in criminal cases. G.S.15A-952(g). State law entitles defendants in criminal cases to continuances in certain situations without any showing of good cause. E.g., G.S. 15A-1023(b) (defendant must be granted continuance upon judge's rejection of plea arrangement); lSA-1024 (defendant is entitled to continuance upon withdrawal of plea following judge's determination to impose sentence other than as provided for in plea arrangement). There is at least one circumstance

in which state law entitles the state to continuance. G.S. 15A-1415(g) (court must grant state's request for 30-day continuance made in response to defendant's amendment to motion for appropriate relief).

6. Any grant of a continuance motion or request by the Court shall be made on the record, with an indication of who requested it and the reasons for granting it.

7. Whenever possible, the Court shall hold the rescheduled court event not later than 60 days after the date from which it was continued.

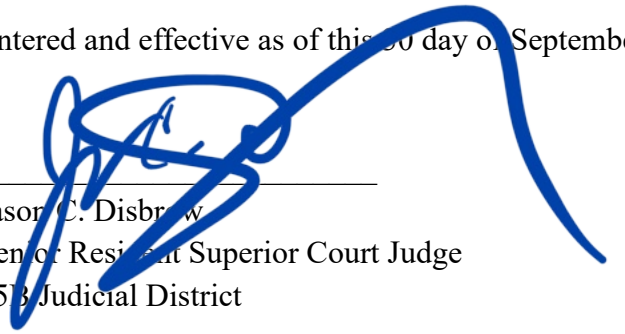
8. Information about the source of each continuance motion or request in a case and the reason for any continuance granted by the Court shall be noted in the Court's file.

9. To the extent that this order conflicts with any statutory provision applicable to a particular continuance motion or request, the statutory provision will control.

10. At least quarterly, the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge shall generate and review a report of pending cases and any data the Administrative Office of the Courts can make available regarding the number of court dates each case had. To promote the consistent application of this continuance policy, these reports should be reviewed and discussed with all other judges in the district, bar representatives and other court-related agencies to seek resolution of any organizational or systemic problems that cause unnecessary delay in the timely resolution of all cases. 11. This order shall be adopted as Local Rule 5.8 and published on the Administrative Office of the Court's Local Rules website.

11. This order shall be adopted as Local Rule 5.8 and published on the Administrative Office of the Court's Local Rules website.

Entered and effective as of this 30 day of September 2026.



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Jason C. Disbrow
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge
15B Judicial District