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5 **SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ORANGE**  
6 **COSTA MESA JUSTICE COMPLEX**  
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9 **PRETRIAL ORDER**  
10 **Judge: Hon. Bradley Erdosi**  
11 **Dept: CM06**

12 **1. Expectations of Counsel and Self-Represented Litigants.**

13 The Court expects all counsel and self-represented parties to act in a professional manner  
14 and follow the Orange County Bar Association Civility Guidelines.

15 **2. Pre-Trial Responsibilities of Counsel and/or Self-Represented Parties.**

16 All pretrial documents are to be filed at least five court days before trial. Counsel and/or  
17 parties are ordered to comply with Civil Local Rule 317 and all Probate Hearing and Trial  
18 Guidelines.

19 At least three court days before trial, the parties shall deliver to the clerk a tabbed three-  
20 ring Joint Trial Notebook that contains the following, if applicable:

- 21 a. Table of Contents.
- 22 b. Printed copies of the operative pleadings (including the operative petition,  
23 responses/objections, etc.).
- 24 c. Joint Witness List listing the name, brief description, and time estimate for  
25 each witness. Two separate courtesy copies of the Joint Witness List must  
26 also be provided to the Clerk.

- d. Stipulations of fact, exhibit admissibility and/or foundation, or of anything else relevant to the trial.
- e. Joint List of Controverted Issues as to any matters to be determined by the Court.
- f. Joint Exhibit List. Two separate courtesy copies also must be provided to the Clerk.
- g. Trial Briefs.
- h. Motions in limine, along with any oppositions and replies thereto.

**3. Motions in Limine**

In limine motions must be exchanged and discussed no later than the Issue Conference required under Local Rule 317. The parties must meet and confer in a good faith effort to resolve as many in limine motions as possible before trial.

**4. In-Person Trial**

All trials are to be conducted in person. All counsel and parties are ordered to be personally present throughout the trial. All witnesses must be present during their testimony unless good cause is shown and otherwise ordered by this Court.

**5. Witnesses**

Witness must be lined up and ready to testify so as to avoid any delays. Counsel and/or self-represented litigants shall advise the Court and opposing side promptly of any additions to their witness list or problems with witnesses' availability. Counsel and/or self-represented litigants must advise their witnesses of rulings that apply to or affect their testimony.

If a witness or a party needs an interpreter, the parties should bring this to the attention of the Court prior to the commencement of trial.

**6. Objections**

Speaking objections are not permitted. When objecting, parties should state the word "Objection" along with the legal basis for the objection (e.g., "Objection, Hearsay."). Counsel and/or self-represented parties are not allowed to interrupt each other or the Court.

