

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LOCAL RULES
SUPERIOR COURT, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024**

CHAPTER 2 – CIVIL SECTION LOCAL RULES

For revision in Chapter 2 as ~~stricken~~ and/or underlined (*as amended*):

2.5 Settlement Conferences

(a) Settlement Conference

Upon request from any party, the Court will schedule a settlement conference ~~approximately two (2) months before the scheduled trial date~~ in all civil cases except short causes and such other cases as the Court may determine will not benefit from a settlement conference.

Parties requesting a settlement conference shall submit the request through the website of the Superior Court of Humboldt County. All requests must be made no sooner than sixty (60) days before trial, and no later than thirty (30) days before trial.

Upon receipt of a request for a settlement conference, the settlement conference will be scheduled for a date prior to trial. The parties will be notified of the date and time of the settlement conference by the Court through a Notice of Hearing.

Requests for a settlement conference and all settlement conference statements must also be filed in paper form with the Court.

(b) Duty of Attorneys and Others as to Settlement Conferences

In addition to the settlement conference statement required by CRC 3.1380(c), each party claiming damages shall furnish to all other parties as least five (5) court days before the Settlement Conference an itemized list of the special damages and the amount of general damages claimed, and in a personal injury or wrongful death case, a settlement offer. Except as otherwise directed by the Court for good cause shown, all parties, their attorneys who are to try the case, and, when a party is insured, a representative of the insurance company who has authority to settle the case, shall attend the Settlement Conference. Upon written request by counsel to the Court five (5) court days in advance of the Settlement Conference, the Court may on a showing of good cause excuse attendance by a party or insurance representative whose counsel is present at the conference. The person excused shall be immediately available by telephone at all times during the conference.

Each attorney attending a settlement conference shall have a thorough knowledge of the evidence, and shall be prepared to discuss the facts and law pertaining to both liability and damages. In a personal injury or wrongful death case, each attorney shall bring to the

conference a copy of each medical report that pertains to the case. Each party shall prepare a Settlement Conference Statement, which shall be filed with the Court no less than five (5) court days prior to the conference. If prior statements have been filed, the Court requires updated statements if the prior statement is over six (6) months old and/or if there have been substantial changes in liability or damages.

Not less than two (2) court days before the Settlement Conference, opposing counsel will discuss their mutual contentions based on the Settlement Conference Statements. They shall explore a possible settlement at that time. If settlement cannot be obtained at that point, they will isolate all areas of:

- (1) Agreement;
- (2) Disagreement; and
- (3) Be prepared to report these to the Court.

(Eff. 07/01/1994; as amended eff. 07/01/2010; as amended eff. 01/01/2018; as amended eff. 07-01-2022); [as amended eff. 07/01/2024](#)