

NOV 21 2023

By 
DEPUTY CLERK

1 IN THE JUSTICE COURT OF SPARKS TOWNSHIP
2 COUNTY OF WASHOE, STATE OF NEVADA

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5 IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER OF
6 SETTING MANDATORY STATUS
7 CONFERENCES

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2023-06

8 WHEREAS, the Sparks Justice Court (SJC) had reviewed the provisions of
9 Administrative Order 2021-04 Setting Attorney and Status Conferences;

10 WHEREAS, the changes made due to reduced inmate transportation from the Washoe
11 County Detention Center due to the COVID pandemic are no longer necessary;

12 WHEREAS, the Sparks Justice Court has conferred with the offices of the Washoe
13 County District Attorney, the Washoe County Public Defender and the Washoe County Alternate
14 Public Defender;

15 WHEREAS, the provisions of SJC Administrative Order 2021-04 are no longer necessary
16 and are not the most efficient means to administer the SJC Calendar; and

17 WHEREAS, the Chief Judge of the Sparks Justice Court has the authority pursuant to
18 NRS 4.157[c] to make administrative decisions pertaining to the business of the Court.

19 GOOD CAUSE BEING SHOWN,


20 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 21 1. SJC Administrative Order 2021-04 is rescinded as of December 11, 2023.
- 22 2. Court Clerks will set Mandatory Status Conferences [MSC] at the time of arraignment
- 23 for all criminal matters according to the MSC calendaring practices, if possible, as set
- 24 forth on the Court's website. MSCs will be set in the current status conference sessions,
- 25 Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

- 1 3. All in-custody inmates will be transported to the Court for MSCs. As such, the
2 expectation is that prosecutors and defense counsel will be prepared to discuss the prior
3 offer made by the District Attorney, and either resolve the case or set it for trial or a
4 preliminary hearing.
- 5 4. All out-of-custody defendants are required to appear for their MSCs, unless otherwise
6 stipulated to by both parties.
- 7 5. Counsel will be able to continue MSCs by stipulation, on the form provided by the court,
8 for the first or second MSC setting. In order to eliminate the unnecessary transportation
9 of inmates, the stipulations should be received by the Court at least 24 hours in advance
10 of the setting. Any further requests for continuance after the second continuance, must be
11 made in open court before the Judge and will only be granted if good cause is shown, or
12 unless otherwise ordered by the Judge pursuant to stipulation and order.
- 13 6. Through this new MSC process, the SJC will seek to comply with the following time
14 standards. They are not mandatory at this time, but will be used as a method to evaluate
15 the MSC process. Felony and gross misdemeanor cases should be waived, dismissed or
16 set for preliminary hearing: 65% within 90 days, 85% within 180 days and 96% within
17 365 days after arraignment. Misdemeanor cases should be resolved, dismissed or set for
18 trial: 85% within 120 days, 98% within 180 days after arraignment.
- 19 7. This Administrative Order 2023-06 shall stay in full force and effect until amended or
20 rescinded by the Sparks Justice Court.

21 IT IS SO ORDERED.

22 Dated this 21st day of November, 2023.

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25 Chief Judge Kevin Higgins
Justice of the Peace