

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT, GRUNDY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

**STANDING TRIAL ORDER
CRIMINAL JURY TRIALS**

In the exercise of the Court's inherent authority to provide for the orderly disposition of pretrial and trial proceedings;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED;

Attorney's responsible for trying the case shall attend the final pre-trial. Upon answering ready for trial, counsel shall tender the following items in paragraph 1 to opposing counsel and to the Court:

1. TRIAL:
 - A. Statement of the Case;
 - B. Proposed *voir dire* questions;
 - C. Proposed jury instructions, which shall include the original and one marked set for the Court marked with the authoring party's name. The Court may request the proposed instructions at a later time;
 - D. List of witnesses;
 - E. All Stipulations;
 - F. List of names of attorneys at counsel table;
 - G. Parties to exchange certified copies of all criminal convictions that they intend to use at trial.
 - H. Parties to advise Court whether either party will requests facts to be judicially noticed.

I. Defendant to advise Court and counsel whether he/she objects to the Court using *Zehr* question #4 during jury selection, which reads as follows:

4. *The Defendant does not have to testify. In other words, everyone has a right to remain silent through all stages of a criminal proceeding, which includes the trial. If a Defendant does not testify, that fact must not be considered by you in any way in arriving at your verdict. (SUBJECT TO DEFENSE OBJECTION)*

J. Final pre-trial will be held _____ at _____ a.m./p.m., before Judge _____ in the E/W/U Courtroom.

2. STANDING IN LIMINE ORDERS:

A. All motions filed by either party at or after final status/trial setting shall immediately be transmitted to the judge assigned to hear the trial by courtesy copy, with a copy to all counsel of record.

B. All objections shall be short and concise, stating the legal basis only; No narrative objections allowed. Additional argument, if needed, shall be made at sidebar as directed by the Court;

C. Once a ruling is made on an objection, no further argument will be allowed other than counsel's indication of a "continuing objection." Counsel may make further argument on the record at the next jury recess;

D. Offers of proof shall be conducted outside the presence of the jury at a time when the Court directs;

E. Counsel shall not approach the bench or a witness without first obtaining leave of Court. The Court may grant continuing leave to approach a witness as appropriate;

F. Any exhibit admitted into evidence and sought to be directly published to the jury shall be given to the jury by the Bailiff. Counsel shall not hand any item to the jury;

G. Witness exclusion applies to all aspects of trial, including jury selection and opening statements. Each party shall police their own witnesses;

H. Any electronic equipment must be set up and tested outside the presence of the jury, and in advance, so trial is not delayed due to “technical difficulties;”

I. Back-striking jurors is not allowed.

J. When possible, counsel shall provide the Court with advanced notice of all contested issues of law along with a short legal memorandum or supporting authority immediately following final status.

DATED this 30th day of August, 2021.

JUDGE LANCE PETERSON,
CIRCUIT JUDGE