

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA
GENERAL TRIAL RULES FOR JUDGE GREGORY K. FRIZZELL

Professionalism, courtesy, decorum, and common sense shall dictate all behavior in this Court. The parties and attorneys, including self-represented litigants, shall be held to the highest standard of professional conduct, personal and professional courtesy and deportment throughout all proceedings.

1. **Local Rules:** You are expected to be familiar with all Local Rules—including Local General Rule LGnR3-3, concerning courtroom behavior—and adhere strictly to those requirements.
2. **Hearing on Motions in Civil Cases:** If a party believes oral argument would be helpful to the Court in deciding the issues, and a hearing has not been set, the party may file a motion to set a hearing. Oral argument will be granted upon a sufficient showing of why a hearing would assist the Court in resolving the issues. An oral argument setting shall not provide an excuse for failure to fully brief the issues. The Court, in its discretion, may schedule oral argument without a request by the parties. The parties are welcome to attend oral argument.
3. **Hearing on Motions in Criminal Cases:** It is the general practice of this Court to hear pending motions during the Pretrial Conference. If one or more of the parties believe an evidentiary hearing is necessary in advance of the Pretrial Conference, they should file a motion seeking an expedited hearing.
4. **Motions *in Limine* and *Daubert* Motions:**
 - a. Motions *in Limine* and *Daubert* Motions shall be filed in accordance with the Scheduling Order and are typically addressed at the Pretrial Conference. Counsel should not wait until the last minute to seek pretrial exclusion of evidence counsel knew or should have known opposing counsel would seek to introduce. If a motion *in limine* is not timely filed, it will not be considered absent a showing of manifest injustice.
 - b. The parties are discouraged from filing a motion *in limine* requesting an order that the parties be required to follow the Federal Rules of Evidence or seeking to exclude broad, general categories of evidence. Any motion *in limine* filed should concern specific evidence.
5. **Jury Instructions:** Objections to proposed jury instructions and pertinent case law shall be provided to the court prior to trial.
6. **General Courtroom Protocol:**
 - a. Attorneys shall not directly address opposing counsel in open court.
 - b. Do not place on the courtroom furniture—including chairs, conference tables, or benches—any objects which might scratch or mar the surfaces. Such objects may include, but are not limited to, briefcases with metal closures or feet, demonstrative aids, exhibits, etc.

- c. Attorneys and parties shall not bring food or beverages into the courtroom. Water is provided. Members of the public may bring water into the courtroom, provided it is in a bottle or other lidded container. Coffee, soda, and other beverages are not permitted.

7. **Exhibits:**

- d. Counsel shall prepare separate exhibit notebooks for: (1) the witness stand; (2) opposing counsel; (3) the Court; and (4) the Court's law clerk.
- e. The Court encourages the parties to use the electronic evidence presentation system in the courtroom. Inexperienced users should contact the Courtroom Deputy to schedule a short training session in advance of trial.