

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 conducted in this Court.

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 each of the requirements of the rules.
2. **Hearing on Motions in Civil Cases:** If one or more of the parties believe oral argument would be helpful to the Court in deciding the issues, and a hearing is not set, they should file a motion seeking oral argument. Oral argument should only be sought upon a showing of why it would assist the Court in resolving the issues. A request for oral argument is not a reason to not fully brief the matter in written submissions to the Court. The Court, at its discretion, may schedule oral argument without a request by the parties. The parties are welcomed and encouraged to attend oral argument.
3. **Hearing on Motions in Criminal Cases:** It is the general practice of this Court to hear all 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 will generally be addressed at the Pretrial Conference. Counsel should not wait until trial to seek exclusion of evidence counsel knew 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 should not directly address opposing counsel in open court without leave of Court.
 - b. Computers may be used by counsel, as long as such use is unobtrusive and is cleared through the Courtroom Deputy prior to the morning of trial.

- c. Do not place on the courtroom furniture—including chairs, conference tables, or benches—any objects which might scratch or mar the surfaces including briefcases with metal closures or feet, demonstrative aids, exhibits, etc.
- d. 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 shall not be permitted.

7. **Exhibits:**

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