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**JUDGE CONTACT INFORMATION**

1. Please enter your name.

**Robert Gusinsky**

Name:

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**ATTORNEY CONTACT**

2. Generally, how do you prefer attorney contact?

**Email**

3. How do you prefer to receive briefs?

**Email**

4. Would you like to receive copies of pleadings and affidavits related to a brief or motion?

**Yes, via email with hard copy also sent via U.S. Mail**

5. How do you prefer to receive proposed orders?

**U.S. Mail**

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**CIVIL SCHEDULING & PRACTICE**

6. What is the preferred method for setting a civil motions hearing, other than in open court?

**Contact Court Administration and attorney may schedule with notice to other attorney**

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Other:  
Attorney's should be able to find dates that work for everyone, unless an attorney is bring unresponsive or unreasonable.

7. Do you want courtesy copies of the main statutes or cases relied upon in briefs or motions?

**No**

8. Who should be contacted to request/schedule a telephonic appearance?

**Court Administration**

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## Circuit Judge's Preference Guide

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- 9.** Do you require a motion or want some form of notice if the parties have stipulated to an extension of a deadline in a scheduling order? **Yes**
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- 10.** Should stipulations between counsel on evidentiary issues and/or legal issues be submitted to you in writing? **Yes**
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- 11.** What is the preferred method for scheduling a civil jury trial? **File a motion for scheduling and set for a motions hearing**
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- 12.** Do you require pretrial conferences and what agenda do you have for pretrial conferences? **Yes,**  
If yes, what is your agenda?:  
I follow the local rule for the Seventh Circuit. No pretrial conference for a divorce or custody case
- 
- 13.** Do you have a standard pretrial order? **No**
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- 14.** Do you have any requirements for court trials that are different from your jury trial expectations? **Yes,**  
If so, please explain::  
I require a trial brief and proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law. No trial brief is necessary for divorce and custody cases.
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- 15.** How do you conduct voir dire?  
I only ask the jurors regarding their availability for the duration of the trial
- 
- 16.** Do you require a pretrial brief? **Yes,**  
Please explain:  
Except in divorce and custody cases
- 
- 17.** Do you require pretrial findings of fact and conclusions of law in a court trial? **Yes**
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- 18.** Is there anything else you would like attorneys to know about how you conduct civil matters?  
Stipulations regarding the admission of trial exhibits must be in writing.
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**CRIMINAL SCHEDULING & PRACTICE**

19. What is the preferred method for setting a criminal motions hearing, other than in open court? **Contact Court Administration and attorney may schedule with notice to other attorney**

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20. What is the preferred method for seeking a reset of a routine criminal court appearance? **Contact State's Attorney and reset by agreement of counsel**

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21. When a suppression motion is filed, do you require or request a pre-evidentiary brief to lay out the issues to be argued? **Yes**

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22. Do you have any standard sentences or sentencing policies of which attorneys should be aware? **No**

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23. If answer to previous question is yes, please provide examples. (e.g., no suspended imps in certain situations, fine paid in full on day of sentencing, etc) **Respondent skipped this question**

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24. Is there anything else you would like attorneys to know about how you conduct criminal matters?

All initial Presentence Investigations (PSIs) shall be set up with Court Services by the defense attorney on the day ordered or as soon as reasonably possible.

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**COURTROOM PROTOCOL**

25. Does the Court prefer that lawyers:

- a. Stand when addressing the court **No**
  - b. Ask permission to approach an adverse witness **Yes**
  - c. Ask permission to approach their own witness **No**
  - d. Ask permission before moving about the well of the courtroom **No**
  - e. Ask permission to publish an admitted exhibit to the jury **No**
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26. Do you allow lawyers to have cell phones in your courtroom? **Yes**

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27. Do you mind if lawyers check email, etc while waiting in the gallery for their case to be called? **No**

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28. Is there anything else you would like attorneys to know about your preferred courtroom protocol?

No movement in the well by attorneys whose case is not active. Nor should attorneys come and go through any of the side doors (except the main courtroom door) while a hearing is in progress. Attorneys can re-position during breaks while the next case is called. Such movement is distracting and disrespectful to the attorneys wishing to be heard.

**DOMESTIC CASES**

**29.** Are there any special issues that arise in your courtroom in domestic cases that you would like the Bar to be aware of? **Respondent skipped this question**

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**30.** Do you have a standard pretrial order? **No**

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**31.** Do you require:

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| Pre-trial conference   | <b>No</b>  |
| Pre-trial mediation  | <b>No</b>  |
| Asset/Debt spreadsheet (if so, please provide a copy of the required form) | <b>Yes</b> |
| Pre-trial brief  | <b>No</b>  |
| Pre-trial submission of proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law   | <b>Yes</b> |
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**32.** If the parties stipulate to temporary or final matters, how do you prefer attorneys proceed?

Provide a written stipulation with a proposed Order.

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**33.** Is there anything else you would like attorneys to know about how you conduct domestic cases?

I do not have a format for the asset/debt spreadsheet. except that both parties must generate only one such spreadsheet, and indicate on that spreadsheet the asset, its value if agreed on, each party;s proposed value, if there is no agreement and to whom the asset or debt should be assigned (either by agreement or each party's preference).

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**COURTHOUSE**

**34.** Does your courtroom/courthouse have any of the following: (please list all applicable counties)

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| Separate tables for counsel  | <b>No</b>  |
| Accessibility for attorneys, parties and witnesses who use wheelchairs | <b>Yes</b> |
| Podium   | <b>Yes</b> |
| Microphone system  | <b>Yes</b> |
| Photocopier  | <b>No</b>  |
| Free internet access or law library for visiting lawyers               | <b>Yes</b> |
| Screen for video presentation  | <b>Yes</b> |
| Computer or television for video presentations                         | <b>Yes</b> |
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**35.** Is there anything not previously addressed that you would like attorneys practicing in your court to know?

**Respondent skipped this question**

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