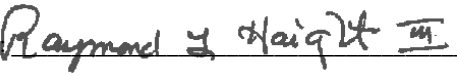


<p style="text-align: center;">SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FAMILY LAW POLICY</p>	<p>Effective Date: May 18, 2017</p> <p>Expiration Date: Until Rescinded</p>
<p>Policy: Mandatory Settlement Conferences and Voluntary Settlement Conferences – Family Law</p> <p>Policy #: FL-002</p> <p>Revised:</p> <p>Replaces:</p>	<p>Approved by: </p>

Purpose: Is to negotiate a possible settlement of the case in whole or in part.

Policy and Procedures:

- a. On the court’s own motion or at the request of any party, the court may set one or more mandatory settlement conferences and/or voluntary settlement conferences.
- b. Settlement Conference Attendance:

Absent a court order for good cause, counsel and the parties must personally attend the Mandatory Settlement Conference (MSC). The parties and counsel in attendance at the MSC must have full authority to settle the case.

If parties agree to participate in voluntary settlement conference with the court, they are expected to attend as to not waste the courts resources.

- c. Preparation for Settlement Conference

All parties and all attorneys are required to meet and confer in person, by telephone, or as ordered by the court, before the settlement conference. During this time, parties must discuss and make a good faith attempt to settle all issues, even if a complete settlement is not possible and only conditional agreements are made. The requirement to meet and confer does not apply to cases involving domestic violence.

The court may require each party to serve and file a settlement statement brief prior to the settlement conference. In lieu of individual settlement statements or briefs, the parties may serve and file a joint settlement statement or brief. All briefs must contain:

1. Names of all parties and their respective counsel
2. Statement of procedural posture of case (i.e., motions heard to date, discovery completed and/or scheduled with dates for completion)
3. Statement of facts
4. State of Issues to be determined, including a brief, specific statement as the party’s proposal on each issue and reasons
5. Statement regarding status of settlement discussions including results of meet and confer meeting and statement of last offer made
6. Current Income and Expense Declaration (served and filed separate from brief)
7. Time estimate for trial