

JUDGE DON T. HALL(#28)
**COUNTY COURT (CRIMINAL AND CIVIL), JUVENILE DELINQUENCY,
FAMILY COURT DIVISION II, CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION II**

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed from 12:00 until 1:00 p.m.

COURTROOM INFORMATION: Judge Hall's hearings are held in the DeSoto County Courthouse located at 115 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida 34266.

ADDRESS/PHONE/FAX NUMBERS: Mailing address is 115 East Oak Street, Suite 201, Arcadia, Florida 34266. PHONE: (863) 993-4644. FAX (863) 494-5809.

SCHEDULING HEARINGS: Hearings shall only be scheduled on the days that are set aside for that specific type of hearing. (Example: Criminal hearings set on criminal days and civil hearings set on civil days. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in your hearing being cancelled and rescheduled.

REQUIREMENTS FOR COURT HEARINGS

COURTESY COPIES: The scheduling attorney must provide the judge's office with a courtesy copy of the notice of hearing as well as a copy of the motion being scheduled for hearing. Notices of cancellation of hearing should be filed with the Clerk of the Court, with copies being provided to the judge's office. These documents should be furnished to the judicial assistant at least 1 week prior to the date of the hearing.

LOCAL RULES: Local rules for the 12th Judicial Circuit are available from the Sarasota County Bar Association and may be accessed via the internet at www.sarasotabar.com. As for discovery issues, the court adheres to local rules 5(a) and 5(b) regarding discovery motions. Any motion not in full compliance with these rules (including a certificate of good faith) is subject to being stricken.

TELEPHONIC APPEARANCES: Telephone appearances are permitted only in non-evidentiary hearings of 15 minutes or less. Opposing counsel is to be notified if a phone appearance is requested. Motion Dockets have multiple cases scheduled for each time slot. Telephone hearings are taken last, and the call is placed by the Clerk in the Courtroom to a toll free or collect phone number provided on the notice of hearing.

FORECLOSURE ACTIONS: For Summary Judgment in Foreclosure Actions, the call will be placed only if the defendant appears at the hearing. Otherwise, the Judge will review the paperwork and enter a judgment, if appropriate.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHEDULED COURT HEARINGS: No later than one week prior to hearing date, it is required that scheduling attorney furnish the judge with copies of: 1. Notice of Hearing; 2. Motion; and 3. any supporting case law.

FAMILY COURT:

TEMPORARY RELIEF MOTIONS: The Court shall carefully consider Motions for Temporary Relief filed with the Petition for Dissolution or prior to the expiration of time for filing an answer and reserves the right to limit relief to extreme financial hardship or dangerous conditions involving children. Absent the aforementioned conditions, these motions shall be mediated prior to hearings being scheduled. Orders to Show Cause will be used to compel attendance in certain default domestic cases involving child custody and visitation issues.

MOTIONS FOR CONTEMPT OF VISITATION AND SHARED PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY: Must be specific as to each violation, including dates, and must refer to specific language in the order or judgment, which has allegedly been violated.

MOTIONS FOR REHEARING, RECONSIDERATION OR NEW TRIAL: Must be submitted directly to the judge, along with a cover letter. After review, the judge will determine if hearing is required.

EMERGENCY HEARINGS: Requests for emergency hearing time must be submitted to the judge in writing with a copy of the motion. After review, the judge will determine if hearing time is required.

HEARING REQUIRING MORE THAN 60 MINUTES: Hearings of more than 60 minutes must be scheduled through the Judicial Assistant. Please follow the instructions on the Main Menu to receive personal assistance.

CRIMINAL HEARINGS:

SCHEDULING CRIMINAL HEARINGS: The scheduling of all criminal motions shall be set through the Judicial Assistant.