

**LOCAL RULES
FOR
THE PROBATE COURT
OF GALVESTON COUNTY, TEXAS**

EXAMPLE OF DOCKET CONTROL ORDER

CAUSE NUMBER PR-_____

IN THE ESTATE OF	§	IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
	§	
	§	
	§	
DECEASED	§	GALVESTON COUNTY, TEXAS

DOCKET CONTROL ORDER

It is ORDERED pursuant to Rule 190.4 that discovery in this case be conducted in accordance with this Order and that the parties shall meet and adhere to the following deadlines:

1. Deadline to add parties. All new parties shall be added no later than _____.

2. Deadlines to designate testifying expert witnesses by filing with the Court and providing copy to opposing counsel:
 - a. Proponent shall designate testifying expert witnesses no later than _____.
 - b. Opponent shall designate testifying expert witnesses no later than _____.
 - c. Any party designating a testifying expert witness is ORDERED to provide, no later than the dates set forth above for designation, the information set forth in Rule 194.2(f).

An expert not designated prior to the above deadlines shall not be permitted to testify unless good cause is shown for late designation.
 - d. All hearings on objections to testifying expert witnesses shall be heard by _____.

3. Limits on discovery:
 - a. Total time for oral deposition: _____ hours per side. "Side" is defined in Rule 190.3(b)(2). (The default time is 50 hours in Level 2 cases).

- b. Any party may serve on any other party no more than _____ written interrogatories, excluding interrogatories asking a party only to identify or authenticate specified documents. (The default limit is 25 interrogatories).
4. Discovery period ends _____.
5. Deadline to amend or supplement pleadings: _____.
6. Mediation. The parties are ordered to attend mediation on or before _____ . The parties shall submit an agreed order naming a mediator agreed to by the parties to the Court within _____ days of this order. If no such order is submitted within _____ days or if no objection to mediation is filed within _____ days of this order, the Court hereby appoints the following person to serve as mediator in this case:

Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____
Facsimile: _____
Email: _____

No later than 30 days prior to the mediation deadline set forth above, the parties shall agree with the mediator on a specific date to conduct mediation.

7. Pre-trial conference shall take place on _____ .
(Note: Pretrial Conference shall only be set with regard to JURY cases. Contact Court Coordinator for this date)

The parties are ordered to exchange with each other prior to the pretrial conference and file with the Court at the pretrial conference.

Proposed jury instructions and questions (jury trial – **Required** for all jury trials).

Proposed findings of fact and law (non-jury trial).

Motions in Limine.

Exhibit lists using the format of the sample attached to this order.

Labeled and numbered exhibits. The parties are ordered per Rule 192.5(c)(2) to exchange prior to the pretrial conference all exhibits they intend to introduce at trial and to make good faith efforts to reach agreement on the admissibility of all exhibits. The parties should be prepared to discuss at the pretrial conference objection to exhibits which the parties do not agree are admissible.

X Witness list stating each witness' name, address, and phone number and stating whether the witness is a party, a fact witness or an expert witness. The parties should be prepared to discuss at the pretrial conference any scheduling problems relating to witnesses and any objections to improperly designated experts or fact witnesses.

8. Trial

Non-Jury / Jury Trial is set for _____ @ _____ a.m./p.m.
(CIRCLE ONE – obtain this date from Court Coordinator. Trial will be heard as a non-jury trial in the event the jury fee is not paid).

9. Vacation letters presented after the date of this order will not be reason for an automatic reset of the trial date.

SIGNED _____, 20__.

JUDGE PRESIDING

Agreed to by Counsel:

