

## **STATEMENT OF POLICY REGARDING STATUS CONFERENCES FOR CIVIL JURY TRIALS IN THE VIRGINIA BEACH CIRCUIT COURT**

A status conference is required for all civil jury trials. The purpose of the status conference is to ensure that the trial will proceed on the scheduled trial date and to determine whether any motions hearings need to be set prior to the trial date. Pretrial motions in excess of 5 minutes total will not be entertained on the trial date.

### **Procedure**

At least 30 days in advance of a scheduled civil jury trial date, the Circuit Court Clerk's Office will call counsel for the cases scheduled for that date and determine which cases are ready for trial. The oldest pending case ready for trial will have priority on the docket for that date.

Counsel for the case with trial priority thereafter will schedule a status conference with the Duty Judge. The status conference shall be held no later than 14 days prior to the trial date. Status conferences will be heard Monday through Friday at 2:15pm. In the discretion of the Duty Judge and depending on the complexity of the case, hearing may be held in person, by telephone, or by WebEx.