

FILED

February 15, 2019

**OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS**

STATE OF MINNESOTA
IN SUPREME COURT

ADM10-8051
ADM09-8009
ADM04-8001

**IN RE EXPEDITED CIVIL LITIGATION TRACK
PILOT PROJECT**

O R D E R

We have previously authorized a pilot project in the First Judicial District in Dakota County, the Fourth Judicial District, the Third Judicial District in Olmsted County, and the Sixth Judicial District in St. Louis County in Duluth, to test whether certain expedited processes improve the way that trial courts process civil cases in order to ensure the just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of every civil action (“Pilot Project”). We also promulgated Special Rules for the Pilot Expedited Civil Litigation Track to govern the Pilot Project. *See Order Relating to the Civil Justice Reform Task Force, Authorizing Modifications to Expedited Civil Litigation Track Pilot Project*, Nos. ADM10-8051, ADM09-8009, ADM04-8001 (Minn. filed May 26, 2016). The Sixth Judicial District, having participated in the Pilot Project in cases filed in St. Louis County in Duluth, requests authority to expand the Pilot Project to all counties in that district.

Based upon all the files, records, and proceedings herein,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The First Judicial District in Dakota County, the Third Judicial District in Olmsted County, the Fourth Judicial District, and the Sixth Judicial District are hereby

authorized to conduct a pilot project under the Special Rules for the Pilot Expedited Civil Litigation Track.

2. Notwithstanding the effective date in Rule 1(a) of the Special Rules for the Pilot Expedited Civil Litigation Track, the Sixth Judicial District's participation in the Pilot Project, apart from St. Louis County in Duluth, shall be effective March 1, 2019 with respect to all civil actions that are filed on or after that date in that district. The attached amendments to the Special Rules for the Pilot Project shall apply to all civil actions identified therein that are filed in the Sixth Judicial District, other than in St. Louis County in Duluth, on or after March 1, 2019. Other than as stated in this paragraph, all other provisions of the order that governs the Pilot Project remain in effect. *See Order Relating to the Civil Justice Reform Task Force, Authorizing Modifications to Expedited Civil Litigation Track Pilot Project*, Nos. ADM10-8051, ADM09-8009, ADM04-8001 (Minn. filed May 26, 2016). The Pilot Project as amended by this order shall continue until further order of the court.

Dated: February 15, 2019

BY THE COURT:



Lorie S. Gildea
Chief Justice

Special Rules for the Pilot Expedited Civil Litigation Track

[NOTE: In the following amendments, deletions are indicated by a line drawn through the words and additions are indicated by a line drawn under the words.]

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RULE 1. MANDATORY ASSIGNMENT OF CERTAIN ACTIONS TO THE EXPEDITED LITIGATION TRACK

(a) General; Effective Date. Unless excluded by an order of the court made pursuant to Rule 1(c) herein, all civil actions identified in Rule 1(b) that are filed in the First Judicial District in Dakota County, the Third Judicial District in Olmsted County, the Fourth Judicial District, and in the Sixth Judicial District ~~in St. Louis County in Duluth~~ on or after July 1, 2016, shall be assigned to the ELT and managed pursuant to these Special Expedited Litigation Track Rules (ELT Rules).

(b) Actions Included. The following civil actions shall be assigned to the ELT, unless excluded pursuant to Rule 1(c) herein:

(1) ~~in the Sixth Judicial District in St. Louis County in Duluth~~, the Third Judicial District in Olmsted County, and in the First Judicial District in Dakota County, all civil matters having the case type indicator Consumer Credit Contract, Other Contract, Personal Injury, Other Civil, or Conciliation Appeal;

(2) in the Fourth Judicial District, all civil matters having the case type indicator Consumer Credit Contract and Conciliation Appeal, and, where designated by the presiding judge by assignment to ELT (referred to in these rules as "Assignment to ELT"), matters having the case type indicator Other Contract, Personal Injury, or Other Civil; provided that this shall not prevent the Fourth Judicial District from initially requiring any Conciliation Appeal to first proceed with mediation before Assignment to ELT;

(3) Any action where all the parties voluntarily agree to be governed by the ELT Rules by including an "ELT Election" in the civil cover sheet filed under the General Rules of Practice or by jointly filing an ELT Election certificate with the court, and the court has accepted such agreement by Assignment to ELT.

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