Individual Calendaring Program Changes

The individual calendaring program includes non-family *civil* cases filed or with a return date after a specific date of the following case types: contract cases, except for contract collections cases (C 40); property cases, except for foreclosure cases (P 00); tort cases; vehicular tort cases; miscellaneous cases (M 90 only); and Wills, Estates and Trusts cases. It has been over three years since the program began, and based upon the experience of individual calendaring judges, litigants, the bar and court staff with the program, some modifications will be made, **effective for cases filed on and after December 1, 2016**.

Within the individual calendaring program, cases are divided into two categories based upon the degree of judicial intervention that is most effective in leading to an efficient and timely resolution. Regardless of the category to which a case is assigned initially, though, the individual calendaring program provides the judge to whom the case is assigned with the flexibility to manage the case as required from initiation to disposition.

The first category comprises individual calendaring case types that benefit from individual assignment and firm trial dates, but typically require less intensive judicial oversight. Initially, only three case types were assigned to this category: Motor Vehicles – Driver and/or Passenger(s) vs. Drivers (V01); Defective Premises – Private – Snow or Ice (T02); and Defective Premises – Private – Other (T03). The experience of individual calendaring judges over the past several years has shown that some additional types of cases can be added to this category. Specifically, **for cases filed on and after December 1, 2016**, seven additional case types will be added to this category. One of the added case types is a newly-created case type: Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist Coverage (C50). The other six case types to be added are: Defective Premises – Public – Snow or Ice (T11); Defective Premises – Public – Other (T12); Animals – Dogs (T61); Animals – Other (T69); Motor Vehicles – Pedestrian vs. Driver (V04) and Motor Vehicle – All Other (V09).

For the remaining individual calendaring case types that are in the second category requiring more intensive case management, a modification in the scheduling of the initial status conference will be made **for cases filed on and after December 1, 2016**. Instead of being scheduled 90 days after the return date, the initial status conference for these case types will be scheduled 120 days after the return date. Experience over the past three years has indicated that extending the scheduling of these conferences by 30 days would result in more productive status conferences. Other components of the program remain unchanged: individual assignment, scheduling orders, and establishment of a firm trial date early in the process.

The civil case types excluded from the individual calendaring program are the same. Administrative appeals, contract collections, eminent domain and foreclosure cases are not automatically part of the individual calendaring program. These types of cases can be moved into the program by the presiding judge based upon the recommendation of any judge or upon the filing, and approval by the presiding judge, of an application by counsel or self-represented party for referral of a case to the individual calendaring program. Judicial Branch form JD CV-132 is available for use by parties or counsel in requesting a referral of a case to the program.

For any questions or comments about the individual calendaring program or these modifications, e-mail <u>individual.calendaring@jud.ct.gov</u>.