

CHIEF JUDGE ORDER 2020-17 STATE OF COLORADO FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

POST-DECREE MOTIONS IN DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES

This CJO replaces CJO 2015-9 and CJO 2019-11. It is necessary to accommodate scheduling in the Magistrate Divisions after significant staffing reductions in the District Court and the relocation of Recovery Court, Veterans Treatment Court, and Adult Mental Health Court from the District Court in late-2019. To rebalance workloads between the Magistrate Divisions and the District Court Divisions, pursuant to CJD 95-01, the following procedures are hereby adopted regarding post-decree motions in domestic relations cases:

- All post-decree motions to relocate with minor children will be heard in the District Court.
- 2. All post-decree motions that would change the primary residence of the child will be heard in the District Court.
- 3. All hearings at which the validity of a prenuptial agreement or the validity of a marriage is at issue will be heard in the District Court.
- 4. All post-decree motions to re-open a case based on a material non-disclosure pursuant to C.R.C.P. 16.2(e)(10) will be heard in the District Court.

- 5. All post-decree motions that the Magistrates determine will require more than a half day hearing will be heard in the District Court. The Magistrates will determine whether a motion will require more than a half day hearing; the District Court Divisions shall accept that determination.
- 6. Some high-conflict, highly litigated cases consume a great deal of District Court time to reach permanent orders. Much of this litigation may need to be repeated if motions filed shortly after permanent orders are heard in the Magistrate Division. After permanent orders, domestic cases may, at the discretion of the District Court Judge, remain in the assigned District Court Division for post-decree motions for a period of up to 18 months from the date of decree or permanent orders, whichever is later. The District Court Division shall monitor the filings in each case. The exception will be for emergency motions filed pursuant to C.R.S. 14-10-129(4). If a motion to restrict parenting time is filed, an alert will automatically be sent by the main clerk's office to all Magistrate Division staff. The assigned Magistrate will then handle the emergency motion to restrict parenting time or discuss with the District Court Judge to determine who is better able to hear the Motion to Restrict.

The effective date of this Chief Judge Order is August 7, 2020.

August 6, 2020

Jeffrey R. Pilkington, Chief Judge

First Judicial District