

## Discovery/Pretrial

- Each side has 48 hours to indicate if they wish to depose any potential witnesses. If the Court approves the deposition, the attorney may send the witness no more than ten questions in written form no more than 48 hours later, which the witness will answer fully, completely, clearly, and concisely no more than 48 hours after that. Objections should be lodged, but the witness will answer the question after objecting. Remember, a deposition is not trial testimony.
- After receiving deposition answers, the deposer may send up to five followup questions directly related to the answers of the witness within 48 hours, which must be replied to in 48 hours.
- Each side has 48 hours to submit a list of witnesses they might call and exhibits they might use at trial.
- Each side shall get up to 5 initial interrogatories. The interrogatories and the responses shall be *clear, concise*, and answer the interrogatory fully unless privilege or some other exception is being claimed.
- Each side shall have 72 hours to submit their initial interrogatories by posting them as a first level comment in a separate thread with the case name as the title which will be posted after depositions. All justices hearing the case, and your opponent, should be pinged.
- Each side shall have 72 hours to answer the initial interrogatories by posting them as a reply to the comment mentioned above. All Justices hearing the case should be pinged.
- Upon receiving the answers, the side receiving the answers shall have 48 hours to post up to three additional interrogatories, which should be posted as a reply to the post mentioned in the previous comment.
- Each side will have 48 hours to respond to those interrogatories.
- If there are any issues with interrogatories, the party who feels there is an issue should alert the Chief Justice immediately so that the issue can be resolved.
- Any missed deadline may result in sanctions or punishment as the Court deems necessary, up to and including default judgment. Extensions for good cause will be considered by the Court on a case by case basis, but will be most likely to be granted if the party requesting does so well in advance of the deadline. If an extension is granted for one party, the other party will automatically get the same extension. Multiple missed deadlines are likely to result in default judgment.

## Jury Selection

- Upon either counsel requesting a jury trial, jury selection shall begin. The Head State Clerk or his representative shall choose eight citizens of Sierra to be potential jurors. These choices should be made with impartiality and activity level in mind.
- Each counsel shall receive one peremptory challenge, which allows them to remove a potential juror from the pool without cause.
- Both counsels shall agree upon **five** jurors who will sit on the jury for the remainder of the trial.
- The other 1-3 potential members may be substituted in throughout the trial, should one of the jurors fall inactive (using the best judgement of the Court).

- The Chief Justice or foreperson of the jury shall assemble the means for the jury to communicate amongst themselves privately. This may take the form of a private Discord channel or Group DM - but should be visible **only** to the 5 jurors.
- Once chosen, the jury shall elect from amongst themselves a foreman, who shall serve as the jury's spokesperson.
- M: If jury selection or retention proves impossible or troublesome due to simulation limitations, the Court may at some point rule that a bench trial is the only viable option.

### **Pre-trial calendar:**

By 21:00 EST on Tuesday, March 25th, parties shall indicate if they wish to depose any potential witnesses.

If so, by 21:00 EST on Thursday, March 27th, parties shall send their deposition questions to the witnesses.

By 21:00 EST on Saturday, March 29th, witnesses shall reply to the deposition questions.

If counsel wishes to ask follow-ups, they shall do so by 21:00 EST on Monday, March 30th.

By 21:00 EST on Wednesday, April 2nd, witnesses should reply to the followup questions.

By 21:00 EST Friday, April 4th, both sides shall indicate any witnesses and/or exhibits they may call at trial.

By 21:00 EST Monday, April 7th, both sides shall submit their initial set of interrogatories.

By 21:00 EST Thursday, April 10th, both sides shall reply to the initial set of interrogatories.

By 21:00 EST Saturday, April 12th, both sides shall submit their follow-up interrogatories, if any.

By 21:00 EST Monday, April 15th, both sides shall reply to the follow-up interrogatories.

At 21:00 EST Monday, April 17th, or as soon as possible thereafter, the Chief Justice shall contact those responsible for selecting a jury pool.

If any of these steps are skipped (for instance, if there are no depositions or if there are no followup interrogatories, the remaining steps will be pushed up to when the skipped step would have been due. Dates are estimates and contingent on when the process actually starts.

### **Trial**