

**JUDGE WARONICKI'S CIVIL JURY DIVISION GUIDELINES REGARDING
EMERGENCY MOTIONS**

Emergency motions are because there is an “emergency” where the Court must drop everything that it is doing and act on the motion as soon as possible. This Court inherited a heavy case load and, unfortunately, there is only one circuit civil jury judge in St. Lucie County.

This Court has had “emergency” motions from attorneys dealing with issues such as a delay in receiving a settlement check, unilaterally set depositions, and late discovery responses. These are simply not emergencies. In fact, the above examples happen daily in litigation throughout this State and there are a litany of remedies that can be argued to the Court other than presenting the issue as an “emergency” requiring this Court’s immediate attention.

While not an exhaustive list, an emergency is whether a necessary surgery will be delayed or that a home will be sold or that children will be improperly removed from the State. An emergency is whether there is going to be a serious consequence or injury if the Court does not act as soon as possible.

The Court expects counsel to know what is a true emergency requiring this Court’s immediate attention and what is not. Counsel is cautioned that any meritless or frivolous emergency motions will subject counsel to sanctions from this Court.

The Court does not consider Motion for Extensions of Time to respond to a Proposal for Settlement as an “emergency.” However, the party requesting such relief should email the Court’s Judicial Assistant with a copy of the Motion and the Court will attempt to place such Motion on the next available UMC calendar.

Please see this Court's Procedures when emailing an emergency motion to the Court's Judicial Assistant.