Trials

The date certain docket system is used. The Court follows requirements of E.D. Mich. LR 16.8 regarding trial briefs and exhibits; plaintiffs are to use numbers and the defendants are to use letters for exhibits. Bench book of exhibits is not required but preferred, especially for bench trials. File motions *in limine* one week prior to the final pretrial conference.

a. **Non-Jury**

The Court requires that the proposed findings and trial briefs due on first day of trial.

b. **Jury**

The Court conducts voir dire but allows counsel to participate for 10-15 minutes per side. Objectionable voir dire questions must be submitted in writing prior to the start of voir dire. The Court follows E.D. Mich. LR 16.8(d) regarding jury instructions; must be filed by first day of trial. The Court typically charges the jury after final arguments. Jurors are permitted to take available written instructions into jury room. Note-taking by jury is decided on a case-by-case basis.

c. **Criminal Cases**

Trials in criminal cases are scheduled according to the speedy trial guidelines