

LAW & MOTION TENTATIVE RULINGS
DEPARTMENT 12
APRIL 22, 2026
8:30 a.m.

1. ALEXANDRA OLMSTEAD V. AUSTIN KUENZI

SFL20140287

This matter was continued from April 15, 2026, due to the Petitioner's technical difficulties registering for remote appearance.

On January 30, 2026, the Petitioner filed a Request for Order (RFO) to transfer the case to the state of Nevada (Petitioner's RFO does not identify any specific court in Nevada). Petitioner concurrently filed a Declaration Under Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) stating that the parties' child has lived with the Respondent in Gardnerville, Nevada, since August 2022.

Proof of service filed February 09, 2026, shows the RFO was served upon the respondent by mail on February 07, 2026. To date, Respondent has filed no opposition.

The court, on its own motion, takes judicial notice of the fact that Gardnerville, Nevada, is located in Douglas County. (Evid. Code, § 452, subd. (h).) Therefore, it would appear that the Petitioner requests to transfer the case to the Ninth Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada in and for the County of Douglas.

The court intends to grant the RFO; however, appearances are required to confirm that the Ninth Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada in and for the County of Douglas is the proper court for transfer.

**TENTATIVE RULING #1: THE COURT INTENDS TO GRANT THE RFO.
APPEARANCES ARE REQUIRED AT 8:30 A.M., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2026, IN
DEPARTMENT 12 FOR CONFIRMATION THAT THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF
THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS IS THE PROPER COURT
FOR TRANSFER.**

LAW & MOTION TENTATIVE RULINGS
DEPARTMENT 12
APRIL 22, 2026
8:30 a.m.

2. ALICIA E. REA V. NEIL Z. ASTRONOMO

24FL0388

This matter is on calendar for a two-year dismissal under Code of Civil Procedure section 583.420, which authorizes the court to dismiss an action for delay in prosecution where service is not made within two years after the action is commenced. (Code Civ. Proc., § 583.420, subd. (a)(1).) The action was filed on April 16, 2024.

On February 02, 2026, the Petitioner filed proof of service of summons on the Respondent (showing personal service on May 03, 2024). The court also notes that the Petitioner has recently submitted two separate requests for default judgment, showing an effort to proceed with the case. Therefore, the court will drop the matter from the calendar.

TENTATIVE RULING #2: MATTER IS DROPPED FROM THE CALENDAR.

LAW & MOTION TENTATIVE RULINGS
DEPARTMENT 12
APRIL 22, 2026
8:30 a.m.

3. BRIAN EDWARD SEAHOLM V. VANESSA RUELLYN SEAHOLM 25FL0271

This matter is before the court for hearing of the Request for Order (RFO) filed by the Respondent on March 10, 2026, to modify child custody. The RFO also includes a request for temporary emergency orders, which the court denied the same day it was filed. On March 19, 2026, Respondent filed a Declaration (Judicial Council form MC-030) with several attachments. Proof of service, also filed March 19, 2026, shows that the RFO, as well as Judicial Council form MC-030 and its attachments, were electronically served upon Petitioner that same day.¹

On April 06, 2026, Petitioner filed a Responsive Declaration, a copy of which was electronically served upon Respondent that same day according to the proof of service, also filed April 06, 2026.

Respondent filed no timely reply declaration.

The court notes it generally does not issue a new CCRC referral on a contested custody matter where a CCRC report has been issued within the past six months. (El Dorado Super. Ct., Local Ct. R. 8.10.01.) In this case, the instant RFO was filed roughly two-and-a-half months after the previous CCRC report, issued January 22, 2026. Therefore, the court did not issue a new CCRC referral upon the filing of the instant RFO. However, the court notes that the January 22, 2026, CCRC report was a “One Parent” report due to the fact that the Respondent declined to participate, stating she was not ready. Therefore, the court will re-refer the parties to CCRC.

The court orders the parties to participate in CCRC on Thursday, May 07, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. and sets the matter for review on Wednesday, June 24, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. in Department 12 of the court. The court will issue a new Tentative Ruling by 2:00 p.m. the day prior to the new hearing date. Any supplemental declarations in response to the new CCRC report must be served and filed at least 10 days prior to the new hearing date. The parties are directed to submit the required CCRC questionnaire (Local Form F-17a, which can be downloaded from the court’s website or obtained from the Clerk’s Office) at least five days prior to the CCRC session.

TENTATIVE RULING #3: THE COURT ORDERS THE PARTIES TO PARTICIPATE IN CCRC ON THURSDAY, MAY 07, 2026, AT 9:00 A.M. AND SETS THE MATTER FOR REVIEW ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2026, AT 8:30 A.M. IN DEPARTMENT 12 OF THE COURT. ANY SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE NEW CCRC REPORT MUST BE SERVED AND FILED AT LEAST 10 DAYS PRIOR TO THE NEW HEARING DATE. THE PARTIES ARE DIRECTED TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED CCRC QUESTIONNAIRE (LOCAL

¹ The proof of service shows that Respondent, herself, performed the electronic service. Generally, service must be completed by a third party. In this case, Petitioner filed a Responsive Declaration, thereby waiving any defect in service.

FORM F-17a, WHICH CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE COURT'S WEBSITE OR OBTAINED FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE) AT LEAST FIVE DAYS PRIOR TO THE CCRC SESSION.

LAW & MOTION TENTATIVE RULINGS
DEPARTMENT 12
APRIL 22, 2026
8:30 a.m.

4. IOVANNY MAGANA V. KETSIA BERNARDINO

24FL0292

This matter is before the court for review following the January 21, 2026, and March 05, 2026, hearings.

By way of background, on January 21, 2026, following a CCRC session, the parties stated an agreement on the record concerning basic parenting schedules. The court set a review hearing on March 04, 2026 (subsequently continued to March 05, 2026) to allow the parties additional time for resolution of residual issues.

On March 05, 2026, the court entered the parties' stipulation concerning communications through AppClose and FaceTime. The court ordered the parties to put this stipulation in writing for the court's approval and set the matter for a review hearing. The court directed the parties to submit any supplemental declarations or arguments no later than April 15, 2026.

On April 15, 2026, the Petitioner filed a memorandum of points and authorities in support of his request to obtain a passport for the minor child, BM (age 2). Petitioner also filed a supplemental declaration in support thereof. Both filings were electronically served upon the Respondent on April 15, 2026, according to the proof of service filed that same day.

Also on April 15, 2026, the Respondent filed a supplemental declaration regarding the visitation schedule. Proof of service, also filed April 15, 2026, shows it was electronically served upon the Petitioner that same day.

On April 20, 2026, the Petitioner submitted an unsigned stipulation and objection.

As to the passport issue, the court intends to grant the Petitioner's request to obtain a passport for BM for travel to Mexico.

The court will entertain further argument on visitation and holiday schedules but will not entertain any requests that are inconsistent with the stipulations set forth in the court's January 21, 2026, and March 05, 2026, minute orders; the orders both those dates are confirmed.

TENTATIVE RULING #4: THE COURT INTENDS TO GRANT THE PETITIONER'S REQUEST TO OBTAIN A PASSPORT FOR THE PARTIES' MINOR CHILD, BM (AGE 2). THE COURT WILL ENTERTAIN FURTHER ARGUMENT ON VISITATION AND HOLIDAY SCHEDULE BUT CONFIRMS THE ORDERS SET FORTH IN THE COURT'S JANUARY 21, 2026, AND MARCH 05, 2026, MINUTE ORDERS.

APPEARANCES ARE REQUIRED AT 8:30 A.M., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2026, IN DEPARTMENT 12.

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5. MICHAEL CHARLES LIPKIN V. ILEENE LIPKIN

22FL0794

This matter is before the court for a Trial Setting Conference, as requested by the Respondent on March 06, 2026. The sole issue to be decided at trial is property division.

TENTATIVE RULING #5: APPEARANCES ARE REQUIRED AT 8:30 A.M., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2026, IN DEPARTMENT 12 TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SELECTION OF MANDATORY SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE AND TRIAL DATES.

LAW & MOTION TENTATIVE RULINGS
DEPARTMENT 12
APRIL 22, 2026
9:00 a.m.

1. MARIA DE LA CRUZ V. JUAN DE LA CRUZ VAZQUEZ

SFL20210053

This matter is before the court for a five-year dismissal hearing under Code of Civil Procedure section 583.310, which provides, “An action shall be brought to trial within five years after the action is commenced against the defendant.” (Code Civ. Proc., § 583.310.) The action was filed on April 16, 2021.

It has come to the court’s attention that the Petitioner has recently deceased. Respondent has submitted a proposed judgment of dissolution.

The court notes there is no proof of service of summons in the court’s file. However, on May 11, 2021, Respondent filed a Response to the Petition for Dissolution. On May 04, 2023, at which time, both parties appeared in court, the court ordered the marriage dissolved. Based on these circumstances, the court is prepared to enter a judgment of dissolution nunc pro tunc to May 04, 2023.

The court directs the Respondent to submit a copy of Petitioner’s death certificate so the court can confirm the Petitioner is not entitled to notice of the proposed judgment before it is entered.

TENTATIVE RULING #1: THE COURT, ON ITS OWN MOTION, CONTINUES THE MATTER TO 8:30 A.M., WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026, IN DEPARTMENT 12. THE RESPONDENT IS DIRECTED TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THE PETITIONER’S DEATH CERTIFICATE NO LATER THAN MAY 6, 2026.