

THE BRIEF

SEPTEMBER 2022

An electronic update for the legal community providing a brief look at news in Eau Claire County Courts

Criminal Pre-trial Conferences

At a recent meeting of the Criminal Court Review Committee (which is comprised of various judges, defense attorneys, and prosecutors) it was determined that the term “pre-trial conference” did not adequately describe the purpose of the meeting between the prosecuting attorney and the defendant/defense attorney which takes place prior to a return hearing in intake. Therefore, the term “Settlement Conference” is being adopted to better clarify the goal of the meeting and to differentiate it from an actual pre-trial conference held just prior to a jury trial.

Intake Zoom Appearances

Intake Zoom information for 9:30 AM intake will be provided to defendants or defense attorneys who call requesting it. However, it will also be communicated to the requestor that providing the Zoom information is in no way providing *permission* to appear by Zoom. It is expected that each defendant or attorney be aware of how they should be appearing for that particular court hearing (by video or in person).

Juror Appreciation

The month of September has been designated by the Wisconsin Court System as a time to recognize the importance of jurors to the American justice system. We would like to acknowledge the participation of the many individuals who have been summoned to serve in Eau Claire County over the past year as we moved through the various restrictions brought on by COVID-19. The [Declaration by the Supreme Court](#) and the [Governor’s proclamation](#) can be found on the [Wisconsin Court System website](#). Information regarding jury service in Eau Claire County can be found on the [Eau Claire County Clerk of Courts Jury Page](#). We are thankful for all who have served on jury duty.



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