

Termination Trials

Termination Trials will be heard at main campus on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays and will be in session continuously until complete. The Court prioritizes termination trials unless another matter has higher priority. The Court will attempt to ensure that at least the first priority Termination trial will not be bumped. Once a Termination case confirms for trial, all communications about trial shall be with the **Main Campus**, not FJC. Communication as used here includes communications that counsel would normally have with a Judicial Assistant or Court Manager about trial details and is not intended to include motions in the underlying dependency matter(s). Motions to continue termination trials should be heard by the assigned Dependency Judge unless they have been timely noted on the termination pre-trial and trial confirmation calendar. This is because the assigned Dependency Judge has more information about the family and the case than a Judge at Main Campus who has not yet started trial.

The main campus Court Operations Manager will continue to send out the draft trial list as soon as it is ready, typically 10 days before the scheduled trial week. The final trial list and judge assignment will be sent out the Thursday or Friday the week before trial is scheduled to begin.

Termination Pre-trials and Trial Confirmations will occur concurrently on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 8:15 a.m. at the **main campus** approximately 1 month before trial.

Entry of Final Orders after a termination trial will be set approximately 2 weeks out after the Court's oral ruling.

1. The main campus Court Operations Manager will coordinate with the assigned trial Judge as to when those should be scheduled.
 2. If longer than 30 minutes is expected for presentation, the lawyers shall contact the main campus Court Operations Manager to advise and coordinate the date/time needed for the hearing.
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- Counsel are required to find substitute counsel for all other court requirements during Termination trials (ex., Shelter Care, motions not scheduled for Wednesdays, etc.).
 - Counsel shall inquire with the trial judge at the start of termination trial how the judge would like ER 904 submissions offered into evidence.
 - When counsel estimate how much trial time is needed, they shall include **all** time from the start of trial, including any preliminary issues, through closing. The lawyers will communicate with each other and agree on a realistic estimate together which shall be provided to the court at the Pretrial/Trial Confirmation Hearing.