

GDC Docket Update

By: The Honorable Turkessa Bynum Rollins, Chief Judge

As you all know the recent pandemic has brought about some changes to our dockets (as well as other dockets around the state) over the past couple years. We are hopeful that these changes have been beneficial to the bar and citizens. It remains a priority of the court to ensure efficiency, justice and quick access to the courts is received by all.

Recent developments in the creation of a 7th seat for the Circuit Court, but lack of an available courtroom, have necessitated additional changes in General District Court's dockets. We are doing our best to ensure that these necessary changes create more effective dockets and appreciate your patience and cooperation as we transition through these changes.

In preparation for this change, GDC will be implementing the following docket changes effective as indicated below:

Effective April 26 through May 30

Video Arraignments and bond motions will be in *Courtroom 6* at 9:30 am
Misdemeanor and felony cases will be heard in *Courtroom 6* at 10:30 & 11:30 am
Criminal Motions (discovery, etc.) will be heard in *Courtroom 1* at 9:00 am
Walk-in arraignments will be heard in *Courtroom 1* at 9:00 am
Sentencings will be in *Courtroom 5* at 9:00 am
Civil Return docket will remain in *Courtroom 1* at 11:00 am
All other dockets remain the same

Effective May 31st

CRIMINAL CHANGES

All Criminal motions, including bonds, will be scheduled for 9:00 am in *Courtroom 6*
Defendants for bond motions will now be brought over to the courthouse (this will allow flexibility for the court and counsel who may be in other courtrooms)
Walk-in arraignments will be scheduled for 9:00 am in *courtroom 6*
Video arraignments will begin at 9:30 am in *Courtroom 6* (remaining motions will be heard afterwards)
Walk-ins & Preliminary Protective Orders will be in *Courtroom 6* throughout the day
Felonies will be in *Courtroom 6* at 11:30 (no misdemeanor cases will be in *Courtroom 6*)

CIVIL CHANGES

Attorney Unlawful Detainers will be scheduled as follows (Filings for these dates can begin on **May 10**)
Mondays & Wednesdays at 9:00 am (Returns and trials)- *courtroom 1*
Fridays 1:00 pm (Returns) & 1:30 pm trials- multiple courtrooms

Post Judgments (Filings for these cases can begin **IMMEDIATELY**)

Mondays & Wednesdays 11:00 am- *courtroom 1*
1:00 pm- multiple courtrooms

Warrants in Debts (Filings for these cases can begin **IMMEDIATELY**)

Tuesdays 11:00 am (returns)- *courtroom 1*
1:00 pm returns - multiple courtrooms
Thursday 9:00 am & 11:00 am (returns)- *courtroom 1*
1:00 pm (returns)- multiple courtrooms

Trials will remain at 1:30pm (multiple days will be available to schedule)
Long trials (2-4 hours) will need to be specially set on the court's docket (available dates will be provided)

Pro Se Unlawful Detainers- 9:00am returns on Tuesdays (Filings for these dates can begin on **May 10**)
Small Claims -10:00 am returns on Tuesdays
Trials for Pro Se cases -1:30 pm on Tuesdays

Please note that Circuit Court will begin utilizing GDC Courtroom 2 beginning July 1st.

For your convenience, a copy of the new docketing changes taking effect on May 31st is attached. Again, we thank you for your patience and cooperation.

GENERAL DISTRICT COURT DOCKETING SCHEDULE (effective May 31, 2022)

Courtroom 1:	9:00 AM	<u>Civil Returns & trials- (SEE ATTACHED CIVIL SCHEDULE FOR FULL LISTING)</u>
	11:00 AM	<u>Civil Returns</u>
	1:00 PM	<u>Civil Returns</u>
	1:30 PM	<u>Civil Trials</u>
Courtroom 3:	9:00 AM	<u>Traffic Cases/Infractions (RD first returns)</u>
	10:30 AM	<u>Criminal Docket</u> —criminal cases/Reckless Driving trials with counsel/DOS/No OL/Trespassing/Trooper cases
	11:30 AM	<u>Felony Docket</u> —Commonwealth Attorney present
	1:00 PM	<u>Civil Return Docket</u>
	1:30 PM	<u>Civil Trials</u>
Courtroom 4:	9:00 AM	<u>Traffic Cases/Infractions (RD first returns)</u>
	10:30 AM	<u>Criminal Docket</u> —criminal cases/Reckless Driving trials with counsel/DOS/No OL/Trespassing/Trooper cases
	11:30 AM	<u>Felony Docket</u> —Commonwealth Attorney present
	1:00 PM	<u>Civil Return Docket</u>
	1:30 PM	<u>Civil Trials (except Thursdays)</u>
	1:30 PM	<u>ASAP RETURNS (Thursdays)</u>
	2:10 PM	<u>Transurban (Thursdays)</u>
Courtroom 5:	9:00 AM	<u>Traffic Cases/Infractions (RD first returns)</u>
	10:30 AM	<u>Criminal Docket</u> —criminal cases/Reckless Driving trials with counsel/DOS/No OL/Trespassing/Trooper cases
	11:30 AM	<u>Felony Docket</u> —Commonwealth Attorney present
	1:00 PM	<u>Civil Returns (Thursdays)</u>
	1:30 PM	<u>Civil Trials</u>
Courtroom 6:	9:00 AM	<u>Criminal Motions, including bond motions; Sentencings</u>
	9:00 AM	<u>Walk-in arraignments (Trial dates to be set in consultation with CA and PD if PD is assigned to the case; CA responsible for notifying officers of court dates)</u>
	9:30 AM	<u>Video Arraignments</u>
	11:30 AM	<u>Felony Docket</u>
	1:30 PM	<u>Civil Trials</u>

WALK-INS and PROTECTIVE ORDERS all day (9am-400 pm)

CIVIL DOCKET SCHEDULE (effective 5/31/22)

MONDAY:

9am-11am Attorney Unlawful Detainers & trials
11am Post Judgment
1pm Post Judgment
1:30pm Trials

Tuesday

9-10am Pro Se Unlawful Detainers
10-11am Small Claims
11am Warrant in Debt Returns
1pm Warrant in Debt Returns
1:30pm Pro se Trials

Wednesday

9-11am Attorney Unlawful Detainers & trials
11am Post Judgment
1pm Post Judgment
1:30pm Trials

Thursday

9am Warrant in Debt Returns
11am Warrant in Debt Returns
1pm Warrant in Debt Returns
1:30 pm Trials

Friday

9am Trials
1pm Attorney Unlawful Detainer Returns
1:30 pm Attorney Unlawful Detainer Trials