

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 24-15**

**Motion Ripe Date and Performance Standards Measures**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to D.C. Code § 11-906(a), the Chief Judge shall administer and superintend the business of the Superior Court; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the interest of the residents of the District of Columbia to have decisions on motions and entry of written findings of fact and conclusions of law made in a timely and efficient manner; and

**WHEREAS**, the timely resolution of motions and timely entry of findings of fact and conclusions of law serves the best interests of parties, promotes timely resolution of matters, and provides certainty of outcome for all parties; and

**WHEREAS**, the Court has previously issued Administrative Orders 10-04, 14-07, 14-20, 15-04, and 15-08 to promote the timely resolution of matters in the Superior Court; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is by the Court,

**ORDERED**, that a motion is ripe when it is first appropriate for judicial resolution; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the following guidelines identify the ripe date for a motion based on the first appropriate time for judicial resolution:

- a) A motion in which opposing parties are permitted to file a response is ripe when the allowable time for service, responses, and replies has elapsed.
- b) A motion in which a response is not required or anticipated is ripe on the file date.
- c) A motion that is routinely resolved at a hearing is ripe on the hearing date; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that the time for ripeness is measured from the file date of each motion; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that the appended list of ripe dates and ripe date extensions are applicable to Superior Court divisions; and it is further

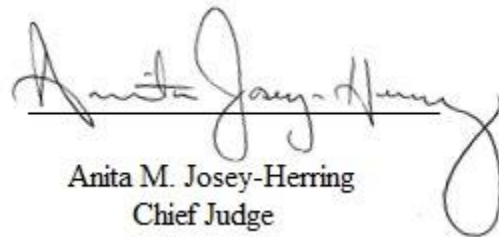
**ORDERED**, that the Superior Court will continue to evaluate and make recommendations on a method to track the extension of ripe dates and applicable reasons; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that the Superior Court will implement a business process to ensure compliance with the aforementioned applicable Administrative Orders; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that the Superior Court will utilize ad hoc reporting to monitor motions and matters under advisement; implement standardized quality assurance procedures; and establish error reports for data accuracy.

**ORDERED**, that this Order shall take effect immediately.

**SO ORDERED.**



Anita M. Josey-Herring  
Chief Judge

Date: September 30, 2024

Copies to:

Judicial Officers  
Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Court  
Office of General Counsel  
Division Directors  
District of Columbia Bar  
Daily Washington Law Reporter  
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## Appendix

### **Ripe Dates by Division**

#### **Civil**

- a) Most motions are ripe 28 days after filing.
- b) Motions in non-jury Landlord & Tenant and Small Claims matters are ripe at the hearing.

#### **Criminal**

- a) Pre-trial motions not requiring an evidentiary hearing are ripe once an opposition is filed.
- b) Pre-trial motions that require an evidentiary hearing are ripe upon the completion of the motions hearing set by the Court.
- c) Most post-disposition motions are ripe 60 days after filing.
- d) Post-Disposition IRAA motions are ripe 120 days after filing.

#### **Domestic Violence**

- a) Civil motions are ripe at the hearing, which occurs 14 days after filing.
- b) Criminal motions follow Criminal Division standards.

#### **Family**

- a) Pre-disposition motions are ripe 28 days after filing.
- b) Post-disposition motions are ripe 61 days after filing.

#### **Probate**

- a) Petitions/motions are ripe 30 days after filing.

#### **Tax**

- a) Civil motions are ripe 18 days after filing.
- b) Criminal motions are ripe 14 days after filing.

## **Ripe Date Extensions by Division**

### **Civil**

- a) When a briefing schedule is set, the ripe date should be extended to the date when the last brief is due.
- b) When an extension is granted for the opposition or, if appropriate, for the reply, the ripe date should be extended to the date when the last submission is due.
- c) If, and only if, a hearing is required to resolve the motion, the ripe date may be extended to the hearing date. This applies, for example, to evidentiary hearings, but it does not apply to control dates.
- d) In MPA cases, the ripe date should be extended to the Initial Scheduling Conference date. It then may be extended again, to the opposition or reply date, but not to the status hearing date contained in the briefing schedule.
- e) Motions for Preliminary Injunction may be extended to the Status Hearing on Preliminary Injunction, or the initial hearing if no status hearing is set.
- f) Motions in limine that cannot be decided before the Pretrial Hearing or Trial may be extended to the Pretrial Hearing or Trial date.
- g) Motions for Default Judgment when an ex parte proof hearing has been set may be extended to the ex parte proof hearing date.
- h) When a case has been stayed due to (1) bankruptcy; (2) military service; (3) interlocutory appeal; (4) drayton or; (5) ancillary proceeding that precludes all other activity in a case the ripe date may be extended to any control date set in a case.
- i) In Landlord and Tenant cases, during the period in which an Emergency Rental Assistance Program is pending the ripe date may be extended to the next hearing date.

### **Criminal**

- a) For any pre-trial or post-disposition motion, the parties may apply for an extension, and, if granted, the new ripe date is the date specified in the order.

### **Domestic Violence**

- a) All motions may be extended if not resolved at the next hearing or trial or a motion hearing set by the Court. Extension may be granted upon request from the parties. The new ripe date is the new hearing date.

### **Family**

- a) When a briefing schedule is set, the ripe date should be extended to the date when the last brief is due.
- b) When an extension is granted for the opposition or, if appropriate, for the reply, the ripe date should be extended to the date when the last submission is due.

- c) If, and only if, a hearing is required to resolve the motion, the ripe date may be extended to the hearing date. This applies, for example, to evidentiary hearings, but it does not apply to control dates.
- d) Motions in limine which cannot be decided before the pretrial or trial may be extended to the pretrial or trial date.
- e) Motions for default judgment when an ex parte proof hearing has been set may be extended to the ex parte proof hearing date.
- f) Motions that rely upon a report (psychological, psycho-social, etc.), are not ripe until that report has been submitted.
- g) When a case has been stayed due to (1) military service; (2) interlocutory appeal; and (3) ancillary proceeding, that precludes all other activity in a case.

### **Probate**

- a) If a hearing date is after the ripe date, the court may wish to consider extending the ripe date to the hearing date.
- b) If a hearing is required to resolve the motion, the ripe date may be extended to the hearing date.
- c) If an extension is granted for a response/reply/answer, the ripe date may be extended to account for granted extension.
- d) Motions in limine that cannot be decided before the pretrial or trial may be extended to the pretrial or trial date.
- e) When a case has been stayed by court order.

### **Tax**

- a) When a briefing schedule is set, the ripe date may be extended to the date when the last brief is due.
- b) When an extension is granted for the opposition or, if appropriate, for the reply, the ripe date should be extended to the date when the last submission is due.
- c) If a hearing is required to resolve the motion, the ripe date may be extended to the hearing date.
- d) A Motion in limine that cannot be decided before the pretrial hearing or trial may be extended to the pretrial hearing or trial date.
- e) When a case has been stayed by court order the ripe date may be extended to any control date set in the case.