

**SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DIVISION**

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO RESUME DETAINED NON-JURY TRIALS IN THE
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DIVISION**

Pursuant to the August 13, 2020, Order outlining D.C. Superior Court operations during the current judicial emergency due to COVID-19, the Domestic Violence Division committed to giving thirty days' notice prior to the recommencement of non-jury trials to provide the parties and counsel sufficient time to prepare for trial.

While deadlines and time limits in statutes and court rules remain suspended, including the 100-day trial clock established in D.C. Code § 23-1322(h), the Domestic Violence Division now provides thirty days' notice of its intent to set non-jury trials, as well as dispositive motion hearings, in cases in which the defendant is detained.

All such cases will be set for a scheduling hearing in a remote DVD courtroom, with the defendant's presence waived for the limited purpose of this hearing. At the request of defense counsel and with the consent of the government, a trial or motions hearing date will be set on or after December 2nd in a partially remote courtroom. This date is contingent upon no further restrictions being imposed in the District of Columbia pursuant to the mayoral declaration of public emergency.

The Domestic Violence Division has undertaken to identify all cases in which a defendant is detained solely on DV misdemeanor charges and has prioritized, to the extent practicable, setting a scheduling hearing in such cases based upon length of detention. The Court will continue to set scheduling hearings in detained DV misdemeanor cases to determine how the parties are seeking to proceed.

If parties are aware of a case in which the defendant has been held in excess of 45 days on DV misdemeanor charges only and no scheduling hearing has been set, counsel is directed to contact the chambers of the presiding judge at judgeraffinanchambers@dcsc.gov. The parties should provide the defendant's name, case number(s), and three mutually available dates for a scheduling hearing.

SO ORDERED this 2nd day of November, 2020.



Maribeth Raffinan
Presiding Judge, Domestic Violence Division