

Chapter 8 – Trials and Hearings

Rule 8.01 – Proposed Jury Instructions

When written jury instructions are presented to the Court pursuant to Civ.R. 51 by a party or counsel, they shall be accompanied by a brief citation of the relevant legal authority, unless excused by the Court.

Proposed jury instructions shall be submitted one week before trial for all trials scheduled before Judge Elizabeth Lehigh Thomakos. Proposed jury instructions shall be submitted prior to trial for all trials scheduled before Judge Edward Emmett O'Farrell.

Rule 8.02 – Argument and Interrogation of Witnesses

Except by permission of the Court, only one counsel for each party will be permitted to speak on any motion during the trial or hearing, and only one counsel for each party will be permitted to examine the same witness during the trial or hearing before the Court. In the final argument to the Court or jury, only one counsel on each side will be heard unless for special reasons the Court permits otherwise. The Court may set reasonable limits on the time for argument.

Rule 8.03 – Interpreters

The Court will use and pay for certified, provisionally qualified or language-skilled interpreters in all proceedings in which a party or witness is non-English speaking, deaf, or hard of hearing.

Interpreters shall be used in accordance with the Rules of Superintendence and in accordance with the Court's Language Access Plan.

Any party, counsel for any party, or an attorney serving as Guardian ad Litem or in any other official capacity on any case who is aware that there is a need for interpretive services shall notify the Court of that need immediately.