
Welcome to DEPARTMENT 14 SPRING STREET COURTHOUSE

Department 14 is part of the Los Angeles Superior Court Complex Civil Litigation Program. It exclusively handles asbestos related personal injury cases originally filed in Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego Counties that have been coordinated into or added onto In re LAOSD Asbestos Cases, Judicial Council Coordination Proceeding (“JCCP”) No. 4674, and “add on” petitions seeking to add cases to the JCCP.

Coordination Judge: Hon. Bruce Iwasaki

Judicial Assistant: Kristel Sandoval

Courtroom Assistant: Michele Torres

Location: 312 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012-4701

Telephone Number: (213) 310-7014

Courtroom Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. & 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Case Management: Case management is governed by the July 8, 2022, Case Management Order, the August 23, 2022, Amendment No. 1, and the July 11, 2023, Amendment No. 2, which are available on the Los Angeles Superior Court website.

Hearing Times: Law and motion matters are heard Tuesday through Friday at 9:00 a.m. Ex parte applications are heard each day at 8:30 a.m.

Remote Appearances: LACourtConnect may be used for remote appearances. Trial counsel are to appear in person at the final status conference and on the trial date.

Court Reporters: Parties are to arrange for their own court reporters.

Interpreters: If a party or witness requires an interpreter, counsel are to arrange for a certified interpreter.

TAKING MATTERS OFF CALENDAR

Counsel must call Department 14 as soon as possible to take a matter off calendar and then file and serve a notice that the matter is off calendar.



REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES

Requests for continuances may be made by stipulation and proposed order or, if no agreement is possible after good faith discussion among counsel in-person or by telephone, by noticed motion.

DISCOVERY MOTIONS

Before filing a discovery motion, counsel must meet and confer in person or by telephone to attempt to resolve or at least narrow the dispute. If the dispute remains unresolved, counsel should immediately call Department 14 to schedule an Informal Discovery Conference. Informal Discovery Conferences are heard on a conference call initiated by counsel (after all counsel are on the call, counsel call Department 14). Three court days before the Informal Discovery Conference, the parties are to file a statement of no more than three pages describing the dispute. If the dispute is not resolved at the Informal Discovery Conference, counsel may file a discovery motion. To allow time for the Informal Discovery Conference, the court tolls the time to file a discovery motion from the date a party schedules the Informal Discovery Conference to the date of the Informal Discovery Conference.

TENTATIVE DECISIONS

The Court usually posts tentative rulings at least one business day before the hearing. Parties or counsel should access the tentative ruling through the Los Angeles Superior Court website and thoroughly review it before the hearing.

TRIALS

Department 14 generally sends cases to trial courts for trial and related proceedings on the trial date. After the trial judge is identified, counsel will have 20 minutes to exercise any challenge pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 170.6. Cases originating in Orange or San Diego counties will be returned to their county of origin for trial. Cases may trail, or the trial date may be continued, if the parties are not ready for trial, if trial counsel has a good faith basis for being unavailable and no other counsel is available to try the case, or if no trial court is available. Department 14 may determine that a case will remain in Department 14 for trial and related proceedings.

BUILDING ACCESS AND PARKING

The Spring Street Courthouse is a federal government facility. Entry requires a valid form of photo identification (such as a driver's license, California state-issued identification card, or passport). Anyone not possessing this type of identification may be escorted into the building by a court employee. Screening is more involved than at other Los Angeles County Superior Court facilities and may take more time. Please plan accordingly.



Building hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except court holidays. There is no public parking at the courthouse. Pay lots are available nearby and throughout the downtown area. The DASH bus services the downtown/civic center area for a minimal fee and the Metro Rail Civic Center/Grand Park station is less than three blocks away.

