

IN THE STATE COURT OF ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

2026 MAY -8 PM 1:26

**Scheduling Order for Pre-trial Conferences on June 30, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
and Jury Trials for the Week of Monday, July 27, 2026**

For the cases pending trial listed on Exhibit A, the following shall apply:

Discovery

Unless noted otherwise, this Order contemplates that all discovery has been completed, any expert witnesses have been properly disclosed during discovery, and the discovery period is closed.

June 5, 2026

Extension of discovery – If either party is seeking additional time for discovery, an appropriate motion should be filed by this date.

Dispositive motions shall be filed by this date.

Motions to challenge to an expert's qualification under O.C.G.A. § 24-7-702 shall be filed by this date.

June 15, 2026

Defendant's portion of pre-trial order shall be submitted by Defendant to Plaintiff by this date.

Any uninsured or underinsured motorist carrier shall file by this date a notice of whether the UMC elects to proceed at trial in its own name or in the name of Defendant as allowed under O.C.G.A. § 33-7-11. The UMC shall include the election in §1 of the pre-trial order. If no election is filed, the UMC will waive the ability to proceed in its own name, and the Court will find the UMC has elected to proceed in the name of Defendant.

Compliance with O.C.G.A. § 9-11-26 (e) – Parties shall comply with O.C.G.A. § 9-11-26 (e) and supplement all discovery responses by this date.

June 22, 2026

Consolidated Pre-trial Order shall be submitted to the State Court Staff Attorney by email this date to lesley.weise@accgov.com. Plaintiff shall be responsible for consolidating the pre-trial order. (**See further instructions below.**)

Motions in limine shall be filed by this date. The Court requests that the attorneys refrain from filing boilerplate

motions and motions seeking the Court to enter rulings on general topics of well-established of law, evidence, or procedure that are not tailored to the particular legal or evidentiary issues in the case.

Notices of intent to introduce records pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 24-9-902 (11) or (12) shall be filed by this date or may be included in §14 of the pre-trial order if the notice complies with the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 24-9-902 (11) or (12).

Trial depositions - For any depositions to be used at trial, the parties shall file any deposition designations or requests for rulings on deposition objections by this date. ***For any trial depositions taken after this date, any designations or requests for rulings on objections shall be filed within 48 hours of a party's receipt of the transcript.***

June 30, 2026

Pre-trial Conference shall be held at **10:00 a.m.** in the State Court Courtroom, Room 520, Fifth Floor of the Athens-Clarke County Courthouse, 325 E. Washington Street, Athens, Georgia 30601. ***(See further instructions below.)***

Mediation shall be completed by this date. If counsel has not received an order scheduling mediation, please contact the Tenth District ADR Program at (706) 613-3210 to be scheduled for mediation. All cases must attend mediation prior to the pre-trial conference.

All motions in limine and deposition designations shall be heard by the Court on this date.

The Pre-trial Conference will have a WebEx remote attendance option. Please notify the Staff Attorney at lesley.weise@accgov.com at least two days in advance if you wish to appear remotely.

Attorneys who have a previously scheduled leave of absence for this date shall contact the State Court Staff Attorney no later than May 22, 2026 to request an alternative date for a pre-trial conference.

July 17, 2026

Proposed jury charges and a proposed verdict form shall be submitted to the Staff Attorney at lesley.weise@accgov.com by this date.

Depositions of any witnesses who will testify at trial shall be filed with the Clerk of State Court by this date.

July 27, 2026

Jury Trials shall begin at 8:30 a.m. in the State Court Courtroom. If a case is not reached, it will be placed on the next jury trial calendar.

Instructions for Pre-trial Order:

§1 Name, Address, and Phone Number of Attorneys: If the uninsured or underinsured motorist carrier is a party, the pre-trial order shall include whether the UMC will elect to proceed at trial in its own name or in the name of Defendant as allowed under O.C.G.A. § 33-7-11.

§14 Notices of intent to introduce records: Each party may include notices of intent to introduce pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 24-9-902 (11) or (12) if made in compliance with the statute.

§17 Proposed Jury Charges: the parties should word §17 as: “Pursuant to Uniform State Court Rule 10.3, all requests to charge, other than additional requests to cover unanticipated points which arise at trial, shall be filed with the Clerk of State Court and a copy submitted to the Court by email to lesley.weise@accgov.com in Word document form by **July 17, 2026.**”

§19 List of Witnesses: Party shall identify all potential witnesses by first and last name and list the witness’s position and / or employer (if applicable). **Parties shall not list witnesses by generic description.** At trial, the Court will exclude any witness who has not been sufficiently identified except for the limited purpose of authenticating documents, records, or other exhibits.

Amendments: The Court will not enter pre-trial orders that contain provisions attempting to reserve the right to amend the pre-trial order or to conduct discovery. Amendments will be allowed only upon order of the Court and upon good cause shown.

Attendance at Pre-trial Conference / Requests to be Excused: Unless a pre-trial order has already been entered by the Court, an attorney of record must appear for each party to make an announcement in the case. If you are unable to appear, please contact **Lesley Weise, Staff Attorney**, at lesley.weise@accgov.com at least 48 hours in advance to request excusal by the Court.

Failure to Appear at Pre-trial Conference / Failure to Present Proposed Pre-trial Order: Failure of counsel to appear at the pre-trial conference without legal excuse or failure to present a proposed pre-trial order shall authorize the Court to remove the action from the trial calendar, enter such pre-trial order as the Court deems appropriate, or impose any other appropriate sanction.

This Order and the attached Calendar shall be entered on the Minutes of the Court and a copy served on the Tenth District Alternative Dispute Resolution Program office.

SO ORDERED, this 8 day of May, 2026.



Charles E. Auslander, III
Judge, State Court of Athens-Clarke County

Exhibit A

IN THE STATE COURT OF ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

Pre-trial conference on Tuesday, June 30, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
Jury trial week beginning Monday, July 27, 2026 at 8:30 a.m.

Case No.	Case Style	Counsel for Plaintiff	Counsel for Def./*UMC
ST23CV0741 Deadlines from 4/23/26 Case Management Order apply to this case PTC at 2:30 p.m.	Jerry Henderson versus Morgan Clifton Wood, MD and Sound Physicians Emergency Medicine of Georgia, P.C.	David C. Hanson Zachary H. Fuller Hanson Fuller, LLC Michael B. Hill Mayo Hill	Matthew S. Coles Huff Powell & Bailey, LLC
ST23CV0642 4/16/26 CPTO and subsequent proposed Amended CPTO are insufficient. Attorneys must appear at PTC and provide an updated CPTO that complies with this Order	Keith Thompson versus Rosa Marie Fortson** <i>**Special Appearance Answer filed</i>	Saif Ahmed Ross Massey Massey Law Group, LLC	Ankur Trivedi Joseph Kaiser Imaya Adris Groth Makarenko Kaiser & Eidex, LLC *Samantha Ball Fain, Major, Brennan, Sanford & Hardee, PC
ST24CV0186	Jessica Mourani versus Christian A. Milner, Roll-Off Systems, Inc., National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, P.A., and ABC Corp.	Peter Jaraysi Andrew Cobb Brian D. Wright Jaraysi Law, LLC	M. Steven Heath Matthew Moseley Cowsert Heath, LLP

ST24CV1007	Francis P. Bailey versus Richard C. Gresham and Marissa B. Malone** **Special appearance answer filed	R. Walker Garrett Morgan & Morgan Atlanta, PLLC	Eugene S. Hatcher, Jr. Jones Cork, LLP Hunter Bohannon Donna Davis Groth Makarenko Kaiser & Eidex, LLC *Ashley F. Chaney Law Office of Robert D. Ream
ST25CV0273	Troy Burgess versus Emmanuel Curry	Thomas Rainey Morgan & Morgan Atlanta, PLLC	Anne D. Gower Gower, Wooten, & Darneille, LLC *Samantha Feinberg Joseph Kaiser Donna Davis Groth Makarenko Kaiser & Eidex, LLC
ST25CV0277	Rachel Kim versus Lauren Holley	Robert K. Young Morgan & Morgan Atlanta, PLLC	LaShawn W. Terry Law Office of Marcus A. Blackwell
ST25CV0285	Kristin Dorsey versus Emma Virgilio	Manning Miller Morgan & Morgan Atlanta, PLLC	William Cowsert Cowsert Heath, LLP
ST25CV0293	Alexander Zamora versus Kenneth Fulghum	Jason N. Slate Ali Awad Law, P.C.	William Cowsert Cowsert Heath, LLP
ST25CV0295	Cretina Sanders and Mattie Smith versus Erik Aguirre Ayala, Valerio Jesus Heredia, Heredia Fast Towing, Inc., Ethio-American Insurance Company, John Does 1-2, and ABC Corp.	Clark R. Karell, Jr. Karell Trial Attorneys, LLC	E. Blake Durham Blake Durham Law, LLC Chris Denison Denison & Associates

ST25CV0368	Roy Chasteen** and Toney Blackwell versus Anderson Paul Medford	Grant Schrantz William T. "Billy" Joyner Haug Barron Law Group, LLC	Bailey Armstrong Groth Makarenko Kaiser & Eidex, LLC
	**suggestion of death filed 12/3/25		
ST25CV0383	Flavia M. Popescu versus Bradley A. Springs and Pilar Villegas	Somalia Dixon Haug Barron Law Group, LLC	Deidra Kelley Law Offices of Chavies & Maki William Cowsert Cowsert Heath, LLP
ST25CV0581	Kari Hardin versus Alberto Flores Mayo	Steven Grunberg Jan Cohen Kenneth S. Nugent, P.C.	Matthew J. Hurst Jacob W. Cohen Waldon Adelman Castilla McNamara & Prout
ST25CV0584	Katrina Jones versus John S. Culpepper and Joshua S. Culpepper	Blake Swann TopDog Law, LLC	Caitlyn Scofield Ankur Trivedi Groth, Makarenko, Kaiser & Eidex
ST25CV0585	Donneisha T. Eberhart versus John S. Culpepper and Joshua S. Culpepper	Blake Swann TopDog Law, LLC	Caitlyn Scofield Ankur Trivedi Groth, Makarenko, Kaiser & Eidex

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

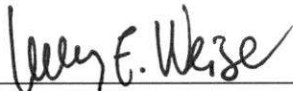
I have served the foregoing Scheduling Order Setting Pre-Trial Conference on June 30, 2026 and for a Jury Trial the week of July 27, 2026 and Exhibit A on all counsel as listed on said calendar electronically through PeachCourt, as well as the following by hand delivery:

Elisa Zarate, Clerk of Court

and

Tenth District Alternative Dispute Resolution Program Office

This 8th day of May, 2026.



Lesley E. Weise, Staff Attorney
State Court of Athens-Clarke County