

On May 8, 2024, the Nebraska Supreme Court approved the following rule amendments to the Rules of the District Court of the Third Judicial District, specifically to Rule 3-9 and Rule 3-18:

**District 3
Rules of the District Court for the Third Judicial District**

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Rule 3-9. Domestic ~~Case Progression~~ Relations Cases

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C. Motion to Set for Trial. After defendant has filed a Voluntary Appearance or Answer or answer day has passed without response, either party may file a motion to set the case for trial.

In cases involving custody or parenting time, the moving party shall state in the motion to set for trial ~~and that~~ that he/she has taken the parenting class required by ~~statue~~ statute and filed a certificate showing completion of the parenting class. If the filing party is requesting a waiver of said requirement, he/she shall state the basis for the waiver.

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H. Exhibit 1. In the ~~interests~~ interest of preserving court time at the final hearing or trial, the parties shall offer evidence in the format of Exhibit 1 (see Appendix Form 7).

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K. Mediation. Unless waived by the court, in all cases governed by the Parenting Act, except those in which there are allegations of intimate domestic partner abuse or unresolved parental conflict as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-2922, parties who have not executed an agreed upon Parenting Plan within 4 months after service of process or the filing of a voluntary appearance shall participate in mediation as set forth in the Parenting Act.

Before filing a contested Complaint to Modify regarding provisions of a Parenting Plan or an Application for Order to Show Cause relating to a Parenting Plan, parties shall mediate by selecting a mutually agreed upon mediator. Any party filing a Complaint to Modify regarding provisions of a Parenting Plan or an Application for Order to Show Cause relating to a Parenting Plan must state in the pleading the date mediation was held and the outcome of mediation. This mediation requirement is in addition to any mediation that occurred prior to the court's most recent Decree or Order on Modification currently in effect.

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M. Waiver and Opt-Out. The court may waive the requirement for mediation or permit the parties to opt-out of the specialized alternative dispute resolution process when:

(1) there is good cause shown and the parents ~~agree~~ agree, and such parental agreement is bona fide and not an attempt to avoid the purposes of the Parenting Act; or

(2) for good cause shown and when mediation or the specialized alternative dispute resolution process is not possible without undue delay or hardship to either parent.

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Rule 3-18. Problem-Solving Courts

A. Rules for operation of problem-solving courts in the Third Judicial District.

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(5) As of the date of adoption, the following judges shall preside in the district's problem-solving courts:

(a) Adult Drug Court

(i) Presiding judge(s): ~~Andrew R. Jacobsen~~ Ryan S. Post and (retired judge) John A. Colborn.

(ii) Successor judge(s): Jodi L. Nelson, Andrew R. Jacobsen, Lori A. Maret, Susan I. Strong, ~~Ryan S. Post~~, or Matthew O. Mellor

(b) Veterans Treatment Court

(i) Presiding judge(s): Kevin R. McManaman, and (retired judge) John A. Colborn

(ii) Successor judge(s): Jodi L. Nelson, Andrew R. Jacobsen, Lori A. Maret, Susan I. Strong, ~~Ryan S. Post~~, or Matthew O. Mellor

(c) DUI Court

(i) Presiding judge(s): Darla S. Ideus and (retired judge) John A. Colborn

(ii) Successor judge(s): Jodi L. Nelson, Andrew R. Jacobsen, Lori A. Maret, Susan I. Strong, ~~Ryan S. Post~~, or Matthew O. Mellor

(d) Reentry Courts: none in operation

(e) Mental Health Courts: none in operation

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