

**RULE 1**  
**GENERAL**

**(a) Relaxation**

The Court may relax these rules in exceptional circumstances when justice so requires.

**(b) Effective Date: Repealer**

These rules shall be effective February 1, 1997 and shall govern all proceedings in cases then pending, or thereafter brought. All prior rules of this Court are repealed, and all standing orders inconsistent with these rules are vacated, as of that date.

**(c) Definition**

The term "party's attorney" or similar term whenever used in these rules shall include a party appearing without counsel.

**(d) Numbering**

The numbering of the local rules tracks the numbers of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Rules concerning criminal practice have been assigned to the 100 series and thereafter correspond to the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.