

## VIRGINIA:

*In the Supreme Court of Virginia held at the Supreme Court Building in the  
City of Richmond on* Friday *the* 28th *day of* February, 2014.

It is ordered that the Rules heretofore adopted and promulgated by this Court and now in effect be and they hereby are amended to become effective May 1, 2014.

Amend Rule 1:18 to read as follows:

### **Rule 1:18. Pretrial Scheduling Order.**

A. In any civil case the parties, by counsel of record, may agree and submit for approval and entry by the court a pretrial scheduling order. If the court determines that the submitted order is not consistent with the efficient and orderly administration of justice, then the court shall notify counsel and provide an opportunity to be heard.

B. In any civil case in which a pretrial scheduling order has not otherwise been entered pursuant to the court's normal scheduling procedure, the court may, upon request of counsel of record for any party, or in its own discretion, enter the pretrial scheduling order contained in Section 3 of the Appendix of Forms at the end of Part I of these Rules (Uniform Pretrial Scheduling Order). The court shall cause copies of the order so entered to forthwith be transmitted to counsel for all parties. If any party objects to or requests modification of that order, the court shall (a) hold a hearing to rule upon the objection or request or (b) with the consent of all parties and the approval of the court, enter an amended pretrial scheduling order.

C. With the exception of domestic relations cases, a court may not enter a scheduling order which deviates from the terms of the

Uniform Pretrial Scheduling Order unless either (1) counsel of record for all parties agree to different provisions, or (2) the court, after providing an opportunity for counsel of record to be heard, makes a finding that the scheduling order contained in the Appendix is not consistent with the efficient and orderly administration of justice under the specific circumstances of that case.

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CHIEF JUSTICE KINSER and JUSTICE POWELL dissent.

A Copy,

Teste:

*Gate L. Hamington*

Clerk