Newport News General District Court

Notice

Effective Tuesday, January 19, 2010

Dated:

January 6, 2010

To:

All lawyers practicing in the Criminal and Traffic Divisions of this Court

From:

The Judges of the Newport News General District Court

Re:

Bail Hearings

WHEREAS, in order to effectuate the scheduling and conduct of bail hearings before this Court, it is necessary to establish a procedure for the setting of all such bail hearings; and

HENCEFORTH, prior to the time defense counsel contacts any Clerk or Deputy Clerk of this Court in order to set a bail hearing, counsel is required to have consulted with his/her client, either in person or by telephone, as to the practicalities of conducting such hearing, including, but not limited to, the presumptions set forth pursuant to §19-1-120 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended; the client's financial ability to make bail; the names and addresses of any witnesses the client may desire to have testify in his/her behalf at the bail hearing; and such other considerations that counsel may deem necessary in this behalf.

By the act of scheduling a bail hearing, defense counsel certifies to the Court, as an Officer of the Court, that he/she has taken at least the minimum steps outlined hereinabove.

Brant Sugg. Chief Judge

Alfred O. Masters, Jr., Judge

Richard C. Kerns Richard C. Kerns, Judge