

RULE 8: JUDGMENT ENTRIES FOR MOTIONS, ANNULMENT, LEGAL SEPARATION AND DIVORCE ACTIONS

8.01 PREPARATION OF JUDGMENT ENTRIES

Except as otherwise provided, the Court may order or direct either party or counsel to prepare and present for journalization a judgment entry. Such party or counsel shall prepare a proper entry and submit same to the opposing party or counsel. The opposing party or counsel shall have five (5) days to approve or reject the judgment entry. In the event of rejection, the opposing party or counsel shall file with the Court, at the time of such rejection, either a written statement of the objections to the proposed entry or that party's own proposed entry. This subsection shall not apply to uncontested matters where the opposing party has made no answer or appearance, or dissolutions of marriage.

Upon the failure of the opposing party or counsel to approve or reject any submitted judgment entry as provided, the preparer of the entry may unilaterally present the entry to the Court for journalization with a certification thereon that the provisions of Loc. R. 8.01 have been complied with.

8.02 FAILURE TO PREPARE OR SUBMIT JUDGMENT ENTRY

Upon failure of the ordered party to prepare a judgment entry, the other party may prepare the entry and submit it to the Court.

Failure of a party or counsel to prepare a judgment entry when ordered or directed to do so may subject said party or attorney to the contempt powers of the Court and/or the vacation of any award of attorney fees. In addition, the Court may grant an award of attorney fees to a party who prepares a judgment entry in accordance with the above paragraph. If neither party prepares the judgment entry, the Court, in its discretion, may prepare the entry and assess costs to either or both parties, or dismiss the matter.

8.03 DECREES

In all divorces, the parties or their counsel should review the relevant portions of the appropriate Divorce Checklist to verify that their decree is complete. Form 5.01(A) is used for divorces without minor children. Form 5.01(B) is used for divorces with minor children.

8.04 PARENTING SEMINAR

Except as otherwise ordered by the Court, every party to a divorce or dissolution involving children shall attend the "For the Children" seminar. Failure to do so may result in dismissal of the action.