

TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Rules of the Circuit Court St. Clair County, Illinois
October 2017

PART 7: MANDATORY ARBITRATION OF CERTAIN CIVIL CASES

7.01 Rules of Mandatory Arbitration

The mandatory arbitration program of the Circuit Court of St. Clair County, Illinois, is governed by the Supreme Court Rules for the Conduct of Mandatory Arbitration Proceedings (Supreme Court Rules 86-95, inclusive). These local rules are adopted pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 86(c). Since arbitration proceedings in this St. Clair County are governed by both sets of rules, reference is made in the caption of each local rule to the Supreme Court Rule governing the same subject.

7.02 Administration of Mandatory Arbitration

A. Supervising Judge. The Chief Judge shall appoint a Supervising Judge for Arbitration in St. Clair County, who shall have the powers and responsibilities set forth in these rules and who shall serve at the pleasure of the Chief Judge.

B. Arbitration Administrator. The Chief Judge shall appoint an Arbitration Administrator who shall have the authority and responsibilities set forth in these rules, and who shall serve at the pleasure of the Chief Judge.

C. Clerical and Support Staff. Clerical and support staff necessary for the effective administration of the arbitration program shall be appointed by the Chief Judge. The Supreme Court shall approve the number of clerical and support personnel, and the compensation paid to such employees. Clerical and support personnel shall serve at the pleasure of the Chief Judge and may be removed by the Chief Judge.

D. State to pay for staff. The amount of compensation to be paid any Arbitration Administrator or clerical and support personnel shall be paid by the State.

E. Conflict of Interest. No administrative, clerical or support personnel receiving compensation from any public funds under the provisions of these rules shall receive any compensation, gift, or gratuity whatsoever from any person, firm, or corporation for doing or refraining from doing any official act in any way connected with any proceeding then pending or yet to be instituted before any court or arbitration panel. Violation of this rule shall be grounds for immediate termination.

7.03 Civil Actions Subject to Mandatory Arbitration (S. Ct. Rule 86)

A. Certain Civil Actions are Subject Mandatory Arbitration. All civil actions will be subject to Mandatory Arbitration on claims exclusively for money in an amount exceeding \$5,000 but not exceeding \$50,000.00. These civil actions shall be assigned to the Arbitration Calendar of the Circuit Court of St. Clair County at the time of initial case filing with the Clerk of the Circuit Court, St. Clair County, Illinois.

B. Filing Fees. Civil actions seeking money damages in excess of \$5,000.00 but not exceeding \$15,000.00 require filing fees for cases of the "AR" division. Civil actions seeking money damages in excess of \$15,000.00 but not exceeding \$50,000.00, require filing fees for cases filed of the "L" division. 15

C. Transfer to Mandatory Arbitration. On the motion of either party, by agreement of the parties or by order of court on its own motion, cases not originally assigned to the Arbitration Calendar may be ordered to arbitration pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 86(d) when it appears to the court that no claim in the action has a value in excess of \$50,000.00 irrespective of defenses. In such cases there will be no adjustment to the filing fee previously paid.

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