

IN THE SUPREME COURT, STATE OF WYOMING

April Term, A.D. 2024

***In the Matter of Amendments to
Rules 1, 5, and 16 of the Wyoming
Rules of Civil Procedure for the
Chancery Court***

ORDER AMENDING RULES 1, 5, AND 16 OF THE WYOMING RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE FOR THE CHANCERY COURT

The Permanent Rules Advisory Committee, Chancery Court Division has recommended the Court amend Rules 1, 5, and 16 of the Wyoming Rules of Civil Procedure for the Chancery Court. This Court finds the proposed amendments should be adopted. See Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 5-13-104(h). It is, therefore,

ORDERED that the amendments to Rules 1, 5, and 16 of the Wyoming Rules of Civil Procedure for the Chancery Court, attached hereto, be and hereby are adopted by the Court to be effective July 1, 2024; and it is further

ORDERED that this order and the attached amendments be published in the advance sheets of the Pacific Reporter; the attached amendments be published in the Wyoming Court Rules Volume; and that this order and the attached amendments be published online at the Wyoming Judicial Branch’s website, <http://www.courts.state.wy.us>, on the “Rule Amendments” page. The amendments shall also be recorded in the journal of this Court.

DATED this 9th day of April, 2024.

BY THE COURT:

/s/

KATE M. FOX
Chief Justice

Wyoming Rules of Civil Procedure for the Chancery Court

Rule 1. Scope and Purpose.

These rules govern the procedure in all civil actions and proceedings in the State of Wyoming chancery courts, except as stated in Rule 81. They should be construed, administered, and employed by the court and the parties to secure the just, effective, and expeditious resolution of every action and proceeding. In order to effectuate the expeditious resolution of disputes, it is a goal of the chancery court to resolve a majority of the actions filed in its court within one hundred fifty (150) days of the ~~filing of the action~~ issuance of the scheduling order. Accordingly, the chancery court shall be active in the management of the docketed cases.

Rule 5. Serving and Filing Pleadings and Other Papers.

(c) *Filing.* *****

(3) *Acceptance by the Clerk.* The chancery court clerk must not refuse to file a document solely because it is not in the form prescribed by these rules or by a local practice. However, in order to effectuate the expeditious resolution of a majority of the actions filed in chancery court within one hundred fifty (150) days of the ~~filing of the action~~ issuance of the scheduling order, the chancery court clerk shall be active in the management of the docketed cases.

Rule 16. Pretrial Conferences; Scheduling; Management.

(a) *Purposes of a Pretrial Conference.* In any action, the chancery court may order the attorneys and any unrepresented parties to appear for one or more pretrial conferences for such purposes as:

- (1) expediting disposition of the action within one hundred fifty (150) days from the ~~date of filing, as defined by Rule 3,~~ issuance of the scheduling order, if the judge determines at the judge's discretion this timeframe is feasible;
- (2) establishing early and continuing control so that the case will not be protracted because of lack of management;
- (3) discouraging wasteful pretrial activities;
- (4) improving the quality of the trial through more thorough preparation; and
- (5) facilitating settlement.
