

From: [Richard Maggi](#)
To: [Comments Mailbox](#)
Subject: [External]AMENDMENTS TO RULE 4:21A-4(a)
Date: Thursday, October 13, 2022 11:14:13 AM

Dear Judge Grant,

I have been practicing 45 years in personal injury litigation and am an arbitrator in 5 counties. I have done as many as 11 arbitrations in a day. I have 8 today, for instance. It usually averages between 5 and 7, with some days less than 5.

Upon receipt of my assignments, I send an email to all attorneys requesting all submissions to be provided 7 days before so that I can review the submissions on weekends, particularly if the arbitrations are on a Tuesday or a Wednesday.

I try to send out zoom invites two days before the arbitration. In order to do that effectively, I need to know what the case is about and whether anyone will be testifying. This way I can decide on the order of the arbitrations and how much time to allot to them. Three days is certainly too short, particularly if the arbitration is on a Tuesday or Wednesday. Even five can be too short depending on how many active arbitrations I may have. I think 7 days before should be required and there should be some teeth to it.

Below is a sample of the introductory email I send out.

Thank you for inviting comments.

Richard P. Maggi, Esq.

Dear Counsel,

As you may already know, I am the arbitrator assigned to hear this matter below on Thursday, October 13, 2022.

I have been successfully conducting arbitrations via Zoom and hope to do the same with your arbitration. Once I have an idea of how many active cases I will have, the complexity of the cases, and which ones will have testimony, I will assign a time usually of ½ hr. duration, more for the more complex cases or cases with testimony. **Please ignore any times that were included in the court's notice as they are only place-holding times.**

1. If you think for some reason, it will take longer than that, please let me know so I can schedule accordingly.
2. Please be so kind as to advise if either or any of your clients will be testifying.
3. **Rule 4:21A-4 (a) requires that submissions be provided 10 days before the arbitration. To give me enough time to read through submissions for multiple cases, if at all possible, please be so kind as to have your submissions in by Thursday, October 6, 2022, which is**

less than the required 10 days.

4. **I usually try to send the Zoom invites out 2 days before the arbitration. If you anticipate a conflict, please advise before I assign the times.**

4. If you don't mind, please provide your cell phone numbers in case we have trouble connecting on the arbitration date. Mine is 908-209-8742.

Looking forward to seeing you on the 13th.

Richard P. Maggi, Esq.