

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 21, 2011

TO: King County Bar Association Members

FROM: Andrew J. Prazuch, Executive Director

**RE: Special Alert: Superior Court to Reduce Civil Trial Calendar
Effective January 9, 2012**

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Superior Court Clerk Barbara Miner issued a clerk's alert December 20 announcing that the King County Superior Court bench has approved a plan to gradually reduce the civil trial calendar from its current 17.5 months to 12 months over the course of a three year period.

The plan, previewed at the November 2011 KCBA Bench-Bar Conference, seeks to bring King County Superior Court into compliance with state-imposed civil disposition standards and nationwide court best practices. According to the clerk, "beginning January 9, 2012, the Clerk will shorten the case schedule by one week approximately every five weeks."

The court plans to suspend the shortening process for several months at the beginning of 2013 so that its impact can be evaluated. KCBA will be monitoring the situation closely and sharing members' feedback with the Court thorough monthly liaison meetings and monthly KCBA Judiciary & Litigation Committee discussions. If you are interested in participating in our analysis and continued discussion on this issue, please join our Judiciary & Litigation Committee by sending me an email (andrewp@kcba.org).

Complete information about this change is available online
<http://kingcounty.gov/courts/Clerk/CaseScheduleMod.aspx>.