

L1915.3-1 Continuances of Conciliation Conferences or Custody Hearings, Refunds

- (a) Custody matters scheduled before the court, or in the custody conciliators office shall be continued only by leave of court, with good cause shown. General continuances will not be granted. A date certain for the rescheduled conference will be included in every order continuing a conciliation conference. For a request for a continuance to be considered, the motion shall be filed with the court in accordance with local Family Court motions practice/procedure.
- (b) Except in the case of a documented medical emergency, or upon consent of both parties, motions to continue, cancel or withdraw a custody conciliation conference must be presented at least 10 days prior to the scheduled conciliation.
- (c) If the case is withdrawn from the conciliator's consideration prior to any conciliation conference occurring, and the party paying the initial conciliators fee seeks a refund thereof, he/she shall present a motion requesting a refund not later than 10 days after the last scheduled conciliation conference.*
- (d) If the party seeking the imposition of an initial custody order, or the modification of a custody order already in existence, i.e. the moving party, fails to appear at a scheduled custody conference, the court will dismiss the case, and the conciliator's fee will not be refunded.

***Comment:** Requests for refund presented more than 10 days after the conciliation conference will not be granted. The intent of this rule is to process refunds in a timely manner consistent with budgeting and accounting needs of the judicial system and the county.