COMMENTS ON CRIMINAL COURT PROCEDURES

PRETRIAL

Do you depend on pre-sentencing probation reports? Yes

If yes, at what stage do you want them? As early as possible.

Do you actively encourage, or participate in, case settlement negotiations?

Yes.

Do you have a set continuance policy? Yes

COURT ROOM PROCEDURES

Do you require or accept trial briefs? Yes.

Do you prefer that the attorneys summarize the major points during oral argument on motions? **Yes.**

Do you prefer that the attorneys respond to your specific questions during oral argument on motions?

Yes.

Do you prefer that the attorneys summarize the major points during oral argument in court trials? **Yes.**

Do you prefer that the attorneys respond to your specific questions during oral argument in court trials? Yes.

In court trials, do you allow parties to submit declarations in lieu of direct examination? **Yes**

Do you require attorneys to use the lectern? **No**

Do you require attorneys to stand for objections? **No**

What are your preferences on how an attorney makes an objection? Stand, make the objection, and state the legal grounds, (i.e. hearsay) without argument.

Do you allow sidebar approaches for objections? Yes

Under what circumstances do you examine a witness yourself? If I am completely confused or can sense the jury being confused.

Do you allow jurors to ask questions? No

If so, please describe the procedure: **(no response)**

JURY SELECTION

Do you allow mini-opening statements during voir dire? Yes

Do you set any time limits on jury selection? **No**

If so, what are the limits and why? (no response)

If the case is more complicated, will you allow more time? Yes

Do you use a "6-pack" approach to jury selection? **No**

If no, what is your jury configuration?

We voir dire the entire venire at

once

Do you consider your voir dire examination of potential jurors to be thorough? **No**

Do you always ask general questions (e.g. name, area of residence, occupation, marital status, jury duty experience), or only sometimes? Yes, but no names.

Do you always ask more in-depth questions, or only sometimes? Yes.

What kinds of questions do you like an attorney to ask during voir dire?

Questions "for cause" only.

Do you have time limits for attorney voir dire? Yes

Do you prefer attorneys to submit potential voir dire questions to the court? **Yes**

Will you use a jury questionnaire? Yes

If yes, when? In what type of case? **Sex cases.**

Your own or attorney prepared? My own with questions submitted by counsel.

TRIAL

Do you limit the time for an opening statement? **No**

If yes, please describe your limits. (no response)

When in trial, do you go five days a week? **Yes**

What are your regular trial hours? **Afternoons.**

Do you limit closing arguments? No

If yes, what are your limits? (no response)

Do you have any rules on the use of technology for presentation? **No**

If yes, what are your rules? (no response)

What is the most common mistake attorneys make regarding closing arguments? They exhaust the attention span of the jury by going too long.

GENERALLY

What type of behavior by attorneys irritates you the most? **Interrupting** each other of the court.

Under what circumstances, if any, would you impose sanctions on an attorney? Complete disregard for the dignity of the judicial process.

Please comment on areas of attorney performance you consider important:

Preparation and conpetency.

How many special circumstance trials

JUDGE JON R. TAKASUGI SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

have you conducted? 0

Are you more comfortable doing criminal trials than civil trials? **Yes.**

Do you have any active prosecution or criminal defense experience? Yes, criminal defense.