

6.01 Trial outline (civil case)

1. Have the case called for trial.
2. Jury is selected (see 6.03: Jury selection—civil).
3. Give preliminary instructions to the jury (see 6.05: Preliminary jury instructions in civil case).
4. Ascertain whether any party wishes to invoke the rule to exclude from the courtroom witnesses scheduled to testify in the case.
5. Plaintiff's counsel makes opening statement.
6. Defense counsel makes opening statement (unless permitted to reserve).
7. Plaintiff's counsel calls witnesses for the plaintiff.
8. Plaintiff rests.
9. Hear appropriate motions.
10. Defense counsel makes opening statement if he or she has been permitted to reserve.
11. Defense counsel calls witnesses for the defense.
12. Defense rests.
13. Counsel call rebuttal witnesses.
14. Plaintiff rests on its entire case.
15. Defense rests on its entire case.
16. Consider appropriate motions.
17. Out of the hearing of the jury, rule on counsel's requests for instructions and inform counsel as to the substance of the court's charge. Fed. R. Civ. P. 51.
18. Closing arguments by counsel.
19. Charge the jury (see 6.06: General instructions to jury at end of civil case). Fed. R. Civ. P. 51.
20. Rule on objections to the charge and make any additional appropriate charge.
21. Instruct the jury to go to the jury room and commence its deliberations.