THE HONORABLE REFEREE SEDILLOS FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

PRACTICE POINTERS & PREFERENCES FOR HOUSING COURT

1. Any communication with chambers should be cc'd to opposing party/counsel and sent to the law clerks at: <u>4thRefereeSedillosChambers@courts.state.mn.us</u>.

2. Please do not submit proposed orders unless specifically requested to by Referee Sedillos.

3. At a housing first appearance calendar, Referee Sedillos typically does not take evidence and typically the parties will be ordered to talk to each other about settlement before a trial will be scheduled for you.

4. If you would like a hearing scheduled based on a written motion, please indicate that in the motion. Oral arguments should be focused on highlighting the most important issues not reciting the briefing.

5. If additional case law is presented at oral argument, a hard copy of that case should be provided to the court and opposing party either by email or in person.

6. If you want to request a continuance the first thing you should do is, ask opposing party/counsel if they will agree to a continuance. Please do not contact chambers unless you have talked to the opposing party/counsel.

7. Prior to filing a complaint, please make sure you review service of process statutes and rules for Housing Court cases. For example, Minn. Stat. § 504B.331, Gen. R. of Prac. 605 and 606

8. If you are appearing in Hennepin County Housing Court be aware of the General Rules of Practice for the District Courts 601-612.

9. Read your scheduling order, calendar the deadlines, and follow the instructions for document exchange, exhibits, and witnesses.

10. **Do** file witness and exhibit lists. Do **not** file trial exhibits with the Court. Information on how to submit exhibits to the Court will be in your scheduling order.

11. For attorneys—Please review Rule of Professional Conduct 4.3 Dealing with Unrepresented Person prior to coming to Housing Court.

12. For landlords, agents, or tenants without an attorney, please know that if you represent yourself, you are generally held to the same standards as an attorney and must comply with court rules.