

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN TAX COURT

ADM2021-003

STANDING ORDER: DIVERSITY IN THE COURTROOM

Whereas the tax court encourages the participation of diverse lawyers in the courtroom as integral members of the legal team; and

Whereas the judges of the tax court believe this court owes a duty to provide in-court opportunities for newer lawyers, many of whom are more representative of our community at large;

Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The court encourages counsel to permit lawyers with less experience to argue motions, including newer lawyers who are women and members of underrepresented, diverse communities. Parties may divide arguments to the extent reasonable to enable newer lawyers to argue parts of extensive or complicated motions, without leave of court.
2. The court also encourages lawyers who are women, members of other underrepresented and diverse communities, including newer lawyers, to participate actively in trials by making opening and closing statements, examining witnesses, and arguing motions.
3. This Order should not be construed to encourage unnecessary motions, as the court always encourages parties to resolve issues short of motion practice.

BY THE COURT:

Wendy S. Tien, Chief Judge
MINNESOTA TAX COURT

Filed: June 3, 2021