LR11-110. Place of filing; forum shopping; docket number.

[Related Statewide Rules 1-088 and 5-105 NMRA]

A. **San Juan County cases.** [~~Civil, criminal, and domestic relations cases in San Juan County shall initially be filed at the courthouse in Aztec except that children's court, delinquency, Child Support Enforcement Division, and abuse and neglect cases shall initially be filed at the courthouse in Farmington. Petitions for orders of protection under the Family Violence Protection Act may be filed in either location.~~] All cases filed in San Juan County may initially be filed at either the Aztec courthouse or the Farmington courthouse. At the time of initial filing, the case will be assigned to a judge's division. Subsequent documents shall be filed at the courthouse where the assigned judge is located.

B. **Required disclosure.** If a case filed in this district has been filed previously in another district within this state, the filing party shall disclose that fact to the judge to whom the case is assigned in this district.

C. **Docket number.** Preceding the case number assigned by the court, the docket number shall indicate D-1113 for McKinley County and D-1116 for San Juan County. The last digit in the docket number indicates the division to which the case has been assigned. When a case is transferred from one division to another, the division number shall be changed accordingly. When a case is assigned to a judge located outside of the Eleventh Judicial District, the division number shall be zero (0).

[As amended, effective June 17, 2003; LR11-116 recompiled and amended as LR11-110 by Supreme Court Order No. 16-8300-015, effective for all cases pending or filed on or after December 31, 2016; as amended by Supreme Court Order No. S-1-RCR-2024-00058, effective for all cases filed on or after December 31, 2026.]

Committee commentary. — If a docket fee has been previously paid or waived, a party may file a stipulated order at any time without paying a filing fee even though the signature of the judge is required. This permits the parties to agree to modifications of court orders such as custody orders.