

Rule 1. Scope of Rules; Modification; Service on Parties; Applicability to Self-Represented Litigants**Rule 1.01 Scope**

These rules shall apply in all trial courts of the state. These rules may be cited as Minn. Gen. R. Prac. ____.

Rule 1.02 Modification

A judge may modify the application of these rules in any case to prevent manifest injustice.

Rule 1.03 Service on Parties

When a document is to be served on a party under these rules, service shall be made on the party's lawyer if represented, otherwise on the self-represented litigant directly.

(Amended effective July 1, 2015.)

Rule 1.04 Responsibility of Self-Represented Litigants

Whenever these rules require that an act be done by a lawyer, the same duty is required of a self-represented litigant.

(Amended effective July 1, 2015.)

Cross Reference: Minn. R. Civ. P. 5.02, 83.

Rule 1.05 Hearing Format

Whenever these rules reference a hearing, proceeding, conference, session, courtroom, or appearance, those terms shall include those held in-person and by use of remote technology ("remotely") as directed by Judicial Council Policy, or the court.

(Added effective July 1, 2026.)

Advisory Committee Comment - 2015 Amendments

The amendments to Rules 1.03 and 1.04 are not substantive in nature or intended effect. The replacement of "paper" with "document" is made throughout these rules, and simply advances precision in choice of language. Most documents will not be filed as "paper" documents, so paper is retired as a descriptor of them. "Self-represented litigant" is defined in Rule 14.01(a)(12). This term is being used uniformly throughout the judicial branch, and is preferable to "non-represented party" and "pro se party," both to avoid a Latin phrase not used outside legal jargon and to facilitate the drafting of clearer rules.