

SUFFOLK COUNTY
SUMMARY JURY TRIAL PROGRAM (SJT)
INFORMATION SHEET

General Features:

- An SJT is a **binding one day jury trial** with **relaxed rules of evidence**
- Medical evidence can be submitted without live medical testimony
- Hi-Low parameters can be stipulated to, i.e., \$0/\$25k, \$50k/\$25k, etc.
- No appeal
- No motion practice
- No directed verdicts
- A date certain for trial
- Innovative methods of case presentation to the jury, direct submission to jury of medical records, reports, power point presentations, etc.
- Supreme Court Justice to preside at the trial

General Rules:

- Written stipulation by attorneys to participate which must include a waiver of right to appeal, withdrawal of pending motions and a waiver of right to file motions, including post trial motions
- Pre-marked exhibits, medical records, reports, photos, diagrams, etc. can be submitted directly to jury
- Any evidence, trial notebook, etc. to be submitted to jury must be exchanged 30 days in advance or it is precluded
- Evidentiary hearing held no later than 10 days before trial to hear objections, exchange witness lists and resolve other pre-trial issues, unless a stipulation of compliance is filed with the calendar clerk of the Supreme Court and the SJT Justice is notified.
- Medical records need not be certified or affirmed
- Video live/pre-recorded testimony permitted

General Procedure:

- Abbreviated jury selection
- 10 minute opening and closing statements for each side
- One hour for case presentation and cross examination by each side