

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

BEGINNING DECEMBER 1, 2009:

EVERY DAY COUNTS.

Effective December 1, 2009, time calculation under the Federal Rules will change. The Rules of Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure, Appellate Procedure, Bankruptcy Procedure, and the Local Rules of Procedure are all affected.

Calculating deadlines is easier under the new system. The general rule is
DAYS ARE DAYS.

Count all weekend days and holidays.

Last day falls on Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday? Deadline is the next business day.

The filing deadline is

5:00 p.m. Mountain time on the due date.

When a deadline is triggered by filing and not service,
the **three-day mailing rule** does not apply.

Generally, time periods are set in multiples of seven days.

10-day periods become 14-day periods. 20-day periods become 21-day periods.

Periods of time of 30 days or more remain the same.

There are exceptions. There is no substitute for reading the rules.

The new federal rules are available at www.uscourts.gov/rules.

Click on "Rules Effective Dec. 1, 2009."

Proposed amendments to the Local Rules for the District of Montana are available at
www.mtd.uscourts.gov under "Documents."

Please send comments to mtd_localrulescomments@mtd.uscourts.gov by

Tuesday, September 15, 2009.

There are other changes too, Federal and Local.

There is no substitute for reading the rules.