PRACTICE EXAM 28: SENIOR COURT CLERK SIMULATION (105 QUESTIONS)

This practice exam contains 105 selected-response questions with four choices each. Use a three-hour limit to mirror the announced Senior Court Clerk computer-based examination. The study scope is the New York State Unified Court System legal terminology, statutes, rules, and procedures in effect as of May 31, 2026. This is an independent practice resource; the official announcement controls the administered examination, timing, and scoring.

1. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when staff are processing several matters at once, a criminal matter has a court-ordered appearance, but the electronic calendar and paper file show different dates. What should the clerk do?

A. Use whichever date is easier for staff to remember.

B. Tell the parties to choose the date that works for them.

C. Reconcile the discrepancy against the controlling order and authorized calendar record, then document the correction or escalation.

D. Delete both dates and wait for a party to complain.

2. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a quality-control review of recently entered cases, a sealed or restricted criminal record is requested by a person whose authorization is not apparent. What is the best response?

A. Release the record because the requester knows the defendant's name.

B. Read the record aloud but decline to provide a copy.

C. Ask the requester to promise not to share the information.

D. Verify the legal authorization and access status before releasing anything, and escalate uncertainty through the designated channel.

3. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while a senior clerk is assigning work to the team, a question describes conduct and asks which legal classification should be considered first. What is the most reliable approach?

A. Use a civil label whenever the conduct caused no immediate injury.
B. Identify the conduct, mental state, and statutory context before selecting a classification.
C. Choose the most serious-sounding label without analyzing the facts.
D. Classify the conduct solely by the person's motive or reputation.

4. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a crowded morning calendar, a clerk is asked whether a criminal record entry proves that every element of an offense was established. What is the best answer?

A. The entry shows the recorded procedural event; the legal effect depends on the document and authorized disposition.
B. No criminal record can ever have legal significance.
C. The clerk may decide the elements by reading the party's explanation.
D. Every entry conclusively proves every element of the offense.

5. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at a branch office handling several urgent papers, a Family Court filing describes a request for support, but staff begin routing it as a custody matter. What should happen?

A. Choose the classification that has the shortest calendar wait.
B. Reject the filing and require the petitioner to start over.
C. Correct the case classification under the authorized intake procedure and preserve the filing event.
D. Keep the custody classification because both matters involve family members.

6. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while reviewing a file before the next appearance, an emergency Family Court paper presents facts suggesting immediate risk. Which clerk action is most appropriate?

A. Delay the paper until routine review is complete.

B. Promise the filer that emergency relief will be granted.

C. Preserve the filing, alert the authorized official promptly, and record the emergency routing and notice steps.

D. Create a custody arrangement without judicial direction.

7. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a supervisor notices a discrepancy in the case jacket, a parent asks the clerk to interpret a disputed custody provision and tell the parent whether a violation occurred. What is proper?

A. Rewrite the parenting schedule to resolve the disagreement.

B. Tell the parent to ignore the order until the dispute ends.

C. Interpret the order and announce the violation at the counter.

D. Identify the existing order, provide authorized procedural information, and route interpretation or enforcement to the court.

8. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at the close of a busy session, a support file contains income information and a court order. Which record-handling principle is most important?

A. Post the income information where any visitor can read it.

B. Protect sensitive information while accurately connecting the financial material to the proceeding and order.

C. Discard the financial material after the order is entered.

D. Change the support amount based on a clerk's calculation alone.

9. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when a litigant asks for immediate help at the counter, a person requests a copy of an order of protection but the file indicates service status is unresolved. What should the clerk verify?

A. The order's identity, access status, authorized disclosure method, and service record before releasing information.

B. Release every paper because safety-related files are never restricted.

C. Refuse the request without checking the order or authorization.

D. Tell the requester that service is complete because the order was signed.

10. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a handoff between the courtroom and clerk's office, a clerk finds a rule citation in a paper but is unsure whether the cited part applies to the court and case type. What is the first step?

A. Confirm the rule's scope, court, case type, trigger, and authorized actor before applying it.
B. Apply the citation automatically because any rule citation controls.
C. Use the rule from a different court if it seems more convenient.
D. Ignore the citation because rules never affect clerical processing.

11. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while preparing a file for judicial review, a local practice instruction appears to conflict with a case-specific court order. Which principle should guide processing?

A. Choose whichever direction requires less staff work.
B. Identify the conflict and follow the authorized process for reconciling the order with the governing rule or instruction.
C. Ignore the order because general instructions always control.
D. Ignore every rule because the case has a special order.

12. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a filing arrives with incomplete supporting papers, a landlord-tenant paper describes a possession dispute and asks staff to process it as an ordinary plenary civil action. What should the clerk recognize?

A. The clerk should create a criminal case because eviction affects housing.
B. The clerk should decide possession before accepting any paper.
C. The matter may fall within the specialized summary-proceeding framework and requires its own documents and workflow.
D. Every possession dispute follows the same path as a contract action.

13. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when staff are processing several matters at once, a file concerns a possible involuntary mental-health placement and staff are unsure whether ordinary civil intake is sufficient. What is the best response?

A. Disclose the file broadly because safety concerns remove confidentiality.

B. Process it as an ordinary motion because a judge may become involved.

C. Reject it because mental-health matters cannot be filed in court.

D. Identify the applicable Mental Hygiene Law article and route the specialized filing under its authorized procedure.

14. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a quality-control review of recently entered cases, a vehicle-related criminal paper is filed and staff are asked to treat it as unrelated administrative correspondence. What should the clerk do?

A. Classify the paper under the applicable criminal and vehicle-law workflow and preserve its connection to the case.

B. Discard it because vehicle matters are never part of a criminal file.

C. Treat it as a civil complaint without checking the charge or court.

D. Return it to the filer and ask the filer to choose the case type.

15. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while a senior clerk is assigning work to the team, a file contains a missing service proof, a confidential exhibit, and a scheduled appearance. What should a senior clerk do first?

A. Release the exhibit to save time before the appearance.

B. Focus only on the scheduled appearance and ignore the missing proof.

C. Wait for a party to identify every problem in the file.

D. Stabilize the high-risk record, verify the next event, and assign or perform each corrective step with documentation.

16. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a crowded morning calendar, a clerk discovers that an entry was made in the wrong case but the paper itself is still available. Which response is best?

A. Delete the entry and reenter it without leaving a history.

B. Leave the error because the paper can be found later.

C. Preserve the original trace, correct the entry through authorized procedure, and document the review and notification steps.

D. Move the paper to the correct case without correcting the electronic entry.

17. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at a branch office handling several urgent papers, a litigant asks a senior clerk for a prediction about how a judge will rule. How should the clerk respond?

A. Recommend the strongest legal argument after reviewing the file.

B. Provide authorized procedural information without predicting or recommending a judicial outcome.

C. Promise that the judge will consider the litigant's preferred result.

D. Predict the result based on similar cases handled previously.

18. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while reviewing a file before the next appearance, a senior clerk must explain a correction to a staff member who made an honest filing error. Which approach is most effective?

A. Protect the affected record, teach the correct process, and document the corrective action without humiliating the employee.

B. Correct the file secretly and provide no process guidance.

C. Ignore the error to preserve morale and hope it does not recur.

D. Publicly blame the employee before checking the record's impact.

19. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a supervisor notices a discrepancy in the case jacket, a paper is delivered with a caption and requested relief, but a party asks the clerk to reject it because the allegations seem weak. What is the best response?

A. Rewrite the allegations so the requested relief appears more persuasive.

B. Promise the party that the court will grant the requested relief.

C. Process the paper under the governing intake procedure and route merits issues to the authorized decision-maker.

D. Reject the paper after independently judging whether the allegations are true.

20. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at the close of a busy session, a supervisor assigns a time-sensitive filing while two routine tasks are pending. Which approach best reflects senior-clerk judgment?

A. Delay the urgent filing until every routine task has been completed.

B. Work on all three tasks informally and leave no written status note.

C. Transfer every task to the newest employee without checking risk.

D. Protect the urgent record first, assign clear ownership, and document the remaining work for follow-up.

21. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when a litigant asks for immediate help at the counter, a question refers to a summons, complaint, and answer in a civil matter. Which description is most accurate?

A. The summons is an exhibit, the complaint is a sentence, and the answer is a jury verdict.

B. The summons gives notice of the action, the complaint states claims, and the answer responds to those claims.

C. The summons is a judicial opinion, the complaint is a calendar entry, and the answer is a warrant.

D. The summons decides the claims, the complaint enforces judgment, and the answer starts service.

22. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a handoff between the courtroom and clerk's office, a litigant calls every court paper an order. What should the clerk do first when the distinction matters?

A. Assume the paper is an order whenever it contains a date or signature.

B. Replace the paper with a standard order form without authorization.

C. Treat the litigant's label as conclusive and enter the paper without review.

D. Review the document's title, issuing authority, operative language, and filing context.

23. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while preparing a file for judicial review, a party asks a clerk to remove an unfavorable entry because it is embarrassing. What is the safest response?

A. Hide the entry from all future users without documenting the change.
B. Preserve the official record and route any request for correction or relief through the authorized process.
C. Create a replacement entry that omits the unfavorable information.
D. Delete the entry immediately to reduce the party's concern.

24. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a filing arrives with incomplete supporting papers, an exhibit is handed to courtroom staff during a proceeding. Which control is most important?

A. Maintain custody, identify the exhibit, and record its movement according to court procedure.
B. Store it with unrelated papers so the file remains compact.
C. Return it to a party without confirming the judge's direction or the record.
D. Permit informal circulation because the exhibit is already in the courtroom.

25. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when staff are processing several matters at once, a civil action is being opened and staff must decide which paper initiates the case. Which principle governs?

A. Wait for a judgment before opening the case record.
B. Use whichever paper is longest because it likely contains the most information.
C. Identify the authorized initiating paper and record the commencement event under the applicable procedure.
D. Treat a motion as the initiating paper in every civil action.

26. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a quality-control review of recently entered cases, a response paper is received after a complaint, and the caption identifies the same parties. What should the clerk verify before entry?

A. The filing's case identity, document type, receipt information, and any required authorization or fee status.
B. Whether the response agrees with the complaint's factual allegations.
C. Whether the clerk personally believes the defense will prevail.

D. Whether the responding party has already won the dispute.

27. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while a senior clerk is assigning work to the team, a party claims that a motion should be decided immediately because the opposing paper is inconvenient to process. What is the proper clerk response?

A. Rewrite the motion so the requested relief is narrower.

B. Grant the motion administratively to avoid delay.

C. Process and calendar the motion under the governing rule and court direction without deciding its merits.

D. Refuse to accept the motion because the opposing paper is difficult to review.

28. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a crowded morning calendar, a party presents proof of service and asks staff to mark the case ready for the next procedural step. What should control?

A. The number of pages in the service packet.

B. The party's assurance that service occurred, without supporting proof.

C. The clerk's guess about when the opposing party probably received notice.

D. The authorized proof, filing record, applicable rule, and any court order governing the next event.

29. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at a branch office handling several urgent papers, an order is submitted after a decision, and the proposed text appears to add relief not described in that decision. What is the best action?

A. Advise the parties that the added relief will certainly be enforced.

B. Compare the proposed order with the decision and route any inconsistency for authorized correction before processing.

C. Enter the proposed order because a signed paper can never conflict with a decision.

D. Delete the additional relief without notifying anyone.

30. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while reviewing a file before the next appearance, a judgment is entered and a party asks staff to enforce it by creating a remedy not stated in the judgment. What should happen?

A. Change the judgment to include the remedy without judicial action.

B. Tell the party that the clerk personally approves enforcement.

C. Create the requested remedy because the judgment is final.

D. Process the judgment as entered and require authorized legal process or direction for any additional remedy.

31. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a supervisor notices a discrepancy in the case jacket, a party asks for a copy of a paper but the access status is unclear. Which response best protects the record?

A. Refuse all requests because access questions are never clerical.

B. Verify the case and access status, then release or withhold the paper under the authorized procedure.

C. Ask the requesting party to decide whether the record is confidential.

D. Provide the paper because every court document is automatically unrestricted.

32. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at the close of a busy session, an arrested person is brought before the court for the first appearance in the criminal case. What is the clerk's primary classification task?

A. Recognize the arraignment-stage event and process the accusatory instrument, appearance, and court direction accurately.

B. Treat the event as sentencing because the person is already in custody.

C. Treat the event as a final appeal because the case is on a calendar.

D. Treat the event as a civil conference because a lawyer is present.

33. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when a litigant asks for immediate help at the counter, a criminal file contains an accusatory instrument, a calendar entry, and a proposed order. Which review should come first?

A. Choose the document with the most severe language and ignore the others.

B. Treat the proposed order as effective without checking the court's direction.

C. Match each document to the same defendant and case, then verify the event and authority associated with it.

D. Assume the calendar entry replaces the accusatory instrument.

34. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a handoff between the courtroom and clerk's office, a party asks the clerk to change a criminal charge on the record because the party believes another charge would be easier to prove. What is proper?

A. Choose the charge that appears most consistent with the available evidence.

B. Remove the charge until the parties agree on a replacement.

C. Replace the charge based on the party's request at the counter.

D. Preserve the existing record and route any change through the authorized prosecutorial or judicial process.

35. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while preparing a file for judicial review, a criminal matter has a court-ordered appearance, but the electronic calendar and paper file show different dates. What should the clerk do?

A. Delete both dates and wait for a party to complain.

B. Reconcile the discrepancy against the controlling order and authorized calendar record, then document the correction or escalation.

C. Tell the parties to choose the date that works for them.

D. Use whichever date is easier for staff to remember.

36. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a filing arrives with incomplete supporting papers, a sealed or restricted criminal record is requested by a person whose authorization is not apparent. What is the best response?

A. Verify the legal authorization and access status before releasing anything, and escalate uncertainty through the designated channel.

B. Read the record aloud but decline to provide a copy.

C. Release the record because the requester knows the defendant's name.

D. Ask the requester to promise not to share the information.

37. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when staff are processing several matters at once, a question describes conduct and asks which legal classification should be considered first. What is the most reliable approach?

A. Identify the conduct, mental state, and statutory context before selecting a classification.
B. Classify the conduct solely by the person's motive or reputation.
C. Choose the most serious-sounding label without analyzing the facts.
D. Use a civil label whenever the conduct caused no immediate injury.

38. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a quality-control review of recently entered cases, a clerk is asked whether a criminal record entry proves that every element of an offense was established. What is the best answer?

A. No criminal record can ever have legal significance.
B. Every entry conclusively proves every element of the offense.
C. The entry shows the recorded procedural event; the legal effect depends on the document and authorized disposition.
D. The clerk may decide the elements by reading the party's explanation.

39. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while a senior clerk is assigning work to the team, a Family Court filing describes a request for support, but staff begin routing it as a custody matter. What should happen?

A. Reject the filing and require the petitioner to start over.
B. Correct the case classification under the authorized intake procedure and preserve the filing event.
C. Choose the classification that has the shortest calendar wait.
D. Keep the custody classification because both matters involve family members.

40. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a crowded morning calendar, an emergency Family Court paper presents facts suggesting immediate risk. Which clerk action is most appropriate?

A. Promise the filer that emergency relief will be granted.

B. Delay the paper until routine review is complete.

C. Preserve the filing, alert the authorized official promptly, and record the emergency routing and notice steps.

D. Create a custody arrangement without judicial direction.

41. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at a branch office handling several urgent papers, a parent asks the clerk to interpret a disputed custody provision and tell the parent whether a violation occurred. What is proper?

A. Tell the parent to ignore the order until the dispute ends.

B. Interpret the order and announce the violation at the counter.

C. Rewrite the parenting schedule to resolve the disagreement.

D. Identify the existing order, provide authorized procedural information, and route interpretation or enforcement to the court.

42. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while reviewing a file before the next appearance, a support file contains income information and a court order. Which record-handling principle is most important?

A. Discard the financial material after the order is entered.

B. Protect sensitive information while accurately connecting the financial material to the proceeding and order.

C. Post the income information where any visitor can read it.

D. Change the support amount based on a clerk's calculation alone.

43. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a supervisor notices a discrepancy in the case jacket, a person requests a copy of an order of protection but the file indicates service status is unresolved. What should the clerk verify?

A. Release every paper because safety-related files are never restricted.

B. Refuse the request without checking the order or authorization.

C. Tell the requester that service is complete because the order was signed.

D. The order's identity, access status, authorized disclosure method, and service record before releasing information.

44. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at the close of a busy session, a clerk finds a rule citation in a paper but is unsure whether the cited part applies to the court and case type. What is the first step?

A. Use the rule from a different court if it seems more convenient.
B. Apply the citation automatically because any rule citation controls.
C. Confirm the rule's scope, court, case type, trigger, and authorized actor before applying it.
D. Ignore the citation because rules never affect clerical processing.

45. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when a litigant asks for immediate help at the counter, a local practice instruction appears to conflict with a case-specific court order. Which principle should guide processing?

A. Identify the conflict and follow the authorized process for reconciling the order with the governing rule or instruction.
B. Ignore every rule because the case has a special order.
C. Ignore the order because general instructions always control.
D. Choose whichever direction requires less staff work.

46. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a handoff between the courtroom and clerk's office, a landlord-tenant paper describes a possession dispute and asks staff to process it as an ordinary plenary civil action. What should the clerk recognize?

A. The matter may fall within the specialized summary-proceeding framework and requires its own documents and workflow.
B. The clerk should create a criminal case because eviction affects housing.
C. Every possession dispute follows the same path as a contract action.
D. The clerk should decide possession before accepting any paper.

47. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while preparing a file for judicial review, a file concerns a possible involuntary mental-health placement and staff are unsure whether ordinary civil intake is sufficient. What is the best response?

A. Process it as an ordinary motion because a judge may become involved.

B. Disclose the file broadly because safety concerns remove confidentiality.

C. Identify the applicable Mental Hygiene Law article and route the specialized filing under its authorized procedure.

D. Reject it because mental-health matters cannot be filed in court.

48. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a filing arrives with incomplete supporting papers, a vehicle-related criminal paper is filed and staff are asked to treat it as unrelated administrative correspondence. What should the clerk do?

A. Discard it because vehicle matters are never part of a criminal file.

B. Classify the paper under the applicable criminal and vehicle-law workflow and preserve its connection to the case.

C. Return it to the filer and ask the filer to choose the case type.

D. Treat it as a civil complaint without checking the charge or court.

49. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when staff are processing several matters at once, a file contains a missing service proof, a confidential exhibit, and a scheduled appearance. What should a senior clerk do first?

A. Focus only on the scheduled appearance and ignore the missing proof.

B. Wait for a party to identify every problem in the file.

C. Release the exhibit to save time before the appearance.

D. Stabilize the high-risk record, verify the next event, and assign or perform each corrective step with documentation.

50. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a quality-control review of recently entered cases, a clerk discovers that an entry was made in the wrong case but the paper itself is still available. Which response is best?

A. Leave the error because the paper can be found later.

B. Preserve the original trace, correct the entry through authorized procedure, and document the review and notification steps.

C. Delete the entry and reenter it without leaving a history.

D. Move the paper to the correct case without correcting the electronic entry.

51. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while a senior clerk is assigning work to the team, a litigant asks a senior clerk for a prediction about how a judge will rule. How should the clerk respond?

A. Provide authorized procedural information without predicting or recommending a judicial outcome.

B. Predict the result based on similar cases handled previously.

C. Recommend the strongest legal argument after reviewing the file.

D. Promise that the judge will consider the litigant's preferred result.

52. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a crowded morning calendar, a senior clerk must explain a correction to a staff member who made an honest filing error. Which approach is most effective?

A. Correct the file secretly and provide no process guidance.

B. Ignore the error to preserve morale and hope it does not recur.

C. Publicly blame the employee before checking the record's impact.

D. Protect the affected record, teach the correct process, and document the corrective action without humiliating the employee.

53. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at a branch office handling several urgent papers, a paper is delivered with a caption and requested relief, but a party asks the clerk to reject it because the allegations seem weak. What is the best response?

A. Promise the party that the court will grant the requested relief.

B. Reject the paper after independently judging whether the allegations are true.

C. Process the paper under the governing intake procedure and route merits issues to the authorized decision-maker.

D. Rewrite the allegations so the requested relief appears more persuasive.

54. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while reviewing a file before the next appearance, a supervisor assigns a time-sensitive filing while two routine tasks are pending. Which approach best reflects senior-clerk judgment?

A. Work on all three tasks informally and leave no written status note.

B. Protect the urgent record first, assign clear ownership, and document the remaining work for follow-up.

C. Transfer every task to the newest employee without checking risk.

D. Delay the urgent filing until every routine task has been completed.

55. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a supervisor notices a discrepancy in the case jacket, a question refers to a summons, complaint, and answer in a civil matter. Which description is most accurate?

A. The summons gives notice of the action, the complaint states claims, and the answer responds to those claims.

B. The summons is an exhibit, the complaint is a sentence, and the answer is a jury verdict.

C. The summons is a judicial opinion, the complaint is a calendar entry, and the answer is a warrant.

D. The summons decides the claims, the complaint enforces judgment, and the answer starts service.

56. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at the close of a busy session, a litigant calls every court paper an order. What should the clerk do first when the distinction matters?

A. Replace the paper with a standard order form without authorization.

B. Treat the litigant's label as conclusive and enter the paper without review.

C. Review the document's title, issuing authority, operative language, and filing context.

D. Assume the paper is an order whenever it contains a date or signature.

57. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when a litigant asks for immediate help at the counter, a party asks a clerk to remove an unfavorable entry because it is embarrassing. What is the safest response?

A. Delete the entry immediately to reduce the party's concern.

B. Create a replacement entry that omits the unfavorable information.

C. Hide the entry from all future users without documenting the change.

D. Preserve the official record and route any request for correction or relief through the authorized process.

58. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a handoff between the courtroom and clerk's office, an exhibit is handed to courtroom staff during a proceeding. Which control is most important?

A. Return it to a party without confirming the judge's direction or the record.

B. Permit informal circulation because the exhibit is already in the courtroom.

C. Store it with unrelated papers so the file remains compact.

D. Maintain custody, identify the exhibit, and record its movement according to court procedure.

59. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while preparing a file for judicial review, a civil action is being opened and staff must decide which paper initiates the case. Which principle governs?

A. Use whichever paper is longest because it likely contains the most information.

B. Wait for a judgment before opening the case record.

C. Identify the authorized initiating paper and record the commencement event under the applicable procedure.

D. Treat a motion as the initiating paper in every civil action.

60. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a filing arrives with incomplete supporting papers, a response paper is received after a complaint, and the caption identifies the same parties. What should the clerk verify before entry?

A. Whether the clerk personally believes the defense will prevail.

B. The filing's case identity, document type, receipt information, and any required authorization or fee status.

C. Whether the response agrees with the complaint's factual allegations.

D. Whether the responding party has already won the dispute.

61. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when staff are processing several matters at once, a party claims that a motion should be decided immediately because the opposing paper is inconvenient to process. What is the proper clerk response?

A. Process and calendar the motion under the governing rule and court direction without deciding its merits.

B. Rewrite the motion so the requested relief is narrower.

C. Grant the motion administratively to avoid delay.

D. Refuse to accept the motion because the opposing paper is difficult to review.

62. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a quality-control review of recently entered cases, a party presents proof of service and asks staff to mark the case ready for the next procedural step. What should control?

A. The number of pages in the service packet.

B. The party's assurance that service occurred, without supporting proof.

C. The clerk's guess about when the opposing party probably received notice.

D. The authorized proof, filing record, applicable rule, and any court order governing the next event.

63. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while a senior clerk is assigning work to the team, an order is submitted after a decision, and the proposed text appears to add relief not described in that decision. What is the best action?

A. Advise the parties that the added relief will certainly be enforced.

B. Enter the proposed order because a signed paper can never conflict with a decision.

C. Compare the proposed order with the decision and route any inconsistency for authorized correction before processing.

D. Delete the additional relief without notifying anyone.

64. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a crowded morning calendar, a judgment is entered and a party asks staff to enforce it by creating a remedy not stated in the judgment. What should happen?

A. Tell the party that the clerk personally approves enforcement.

B. Process the judgment as entered and require authorized legal process or direction for any additional remedy.

C. Change the judgment to include the remedy without judicial action.

D. Create the requested remedy because the judgment is final.

65. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at a branch office handling several urgent papers, a party asks for a copy of a paper but the access status is unclear. Which response best protects the record?

A. Provide the paper because every court document is automatically unrestricted.

B. Ask the requesting party to decide whether the record is confidential.

C. Refuse all requests because access questions are never clerical.

D. Verify the case and access status, then release or withhold the paper under the authorized procedure.

66. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while reviewing a file before the next appearance, an arrested person is brought before the court for the first appearance in the criminal case. What is the clerk's primary classification task?

A. Recognize the arraignment-stage event and process the accusatory instrument, appearance, and court direction accurately.

B. Treat the event as a civil conference because a lawyer is present.

C. Treat the event as a final appeal because the case is on a calendar.

D. Treat the event as sentencing because the person is already in custody.

67. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a supervisor notices a discrepancy in the case jacket, a criminal file contains an accusatory instrument, a calendar entry, and a proposed order. Which review should come first?

A. Choose the document with the most severe language and ignore the others.

B. Treat the proposed order as effective without checking the court's direction.

C. Match each document to the same defendant and case, then verify the event and authority associated with it.

D. Assume the calendar entry replaces the accusatory instrument.

68. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at the close of a busy session, a party asks the clerk to change a criminal charge on the record because the party believes another charge would be easier to prove. What is proper?

A. Replace the charge based on the party's request at the counter.

B. Preserve the existing record and route any change through the authorized prosecutorial or judicial process.

C. Choose the charge that appears most consistent with the available evidence.

D. Remove the charge until the parties agree on a replacement.

69. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when a litigant asks for immediate help at the counter, a criminal matter has a court-ordered appearance, but the electronic calendar and paper file show different dates. What should the clerk do?

A. Reconcile the discrepancy against the controlling order and authorized calendar record, then document the correction or escalation.

B. Delete both dates and wait for a party to complain.

C. Use whichever date is easier for staff to remember.

D. Tell the parties to choose the date that works for them.

70. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a handoff between the courtroom and clerk's office, a sealed or restricted criminal record is requested by a person whose authorization is not apparent. What is the best response?

A. Read the record aloud but decline to provide a copy.

B. Release the record because the requester knows the defendant's name.

C. Verify the legal authorization and access status before releasing anything, and escalate uncertainty through the designated channel.

D. Ask the requester to promise not to share the information.

71. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while preparing a file for judicial review, a question describes conduct and asks which legal classification should be considered first. What is the most reliable approach?

A. Classify the conduct solely by the person's motive or reputation.

B. Identify the conduct, mental state, and statutory context before selecting a classification.

C. Choose the most serious-sounding label without analyzing the facts.

D. Use a civil label whenever the conduct caused no immediate injury.

72. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a filing arrives with incomplete supporting papers, a clerk is asked whether a criminal record entry proves that every element of an offense was established. What is the best answer?

A. Every entry conclusively proves every element of the offense.

B. No criminal record can ever have legal significance.

C. The clerk may decide the elements by reading the party's explanation.

D. The entry shows the recorded procedural event; the legal effect depends on the document and authorized disposition.

73. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when staff are processing several matters at once, a Family Court filing describes a request for support, but staff begin routing it as a custody matter. What should happen?

A. Correct the case classification under the authorized intake procedure and preserve the filing event.

B. Keep the custody classification because both matters involve family members.

C. Reject the filing and require the petitioner to start over.

D. Choose the classification that has the shortest calendar wait.

74. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a quality-control review of recently entered cases, an emergency Family Court paper presents facts suggesting immediate risk. Which clerk action is most appropriate?

A. Preserve the filing, alert the authorized official promptly, and record the emergency routing and notice steps.

B. Promise the filer that emergency relief will be granted.

C. Create a custody arrangement without judicial direction.

D. Delay the paper until routine review is complete.

75. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while a senior clerk is assigning work to the team, a parent asks the clerk to interpret a disputed custody provision and tell the parent whether a violation occurred. What is proper?

A. Interpret the order and announce the violation at the counter.

B. Identify the existing order, provide authorized procedural information, and route interpretation or enforcement to the court.

C. Rewrite the parenting schedule to resolve the disagreement.

D. Tell the parent to ignore the order until the dispute ends.

76. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a crowded morning calendar, a support file contains income information and a court order. Which record-handling principle is most important?

A. Post the income information where any visitor can read it.

B. Change the support amount based on a clerk's calculation alone.

C. Protect sensitive information while accurately connecting the financial material to the proceeding and order.

D. Discard the financial material after the order is entered.

77. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at a branch office handling several urgent papers, a person requests a copy of an order of protection but the file indicates service status is unresolved. What should the clerk verify?

A. Refuse the request without checking the order or authorization.

B. Release every paper because safety-related files are never restricted.

C. Tell the requester that service is complete because the order was signed.

D. The order's identity, access status, authorized disclosure method, and service record before releasing information.

78. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while reviewing a file before the next appearance, a clerk finds a rule citation in a paper but is unsure whether the cited part applies to the court and case type. What is the first step?

A. Ignore the citation because rules never affect clerical processing.

B. Use the rule from a different court if it seems more convenient.

C. Apply the citation automatically because any rule citation controls.

D. Confirm the rule's scope, court, case type, trigger, and authorized actor before applying it.

79. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a supervisor notices a discrepancy in the case jacket, a local practice instruction appears to conflict with a case-specific court order. Which principle should guide processing?

A. Ignore the order because general instructions always control.

B. Identify the conflict and follow the authorized process for reconciling the order with the governing rule or instruction.

C. Ignore every rule because the case has a special order.

D. Choose whichever direction requires less staff work.

80. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at the close of a busy session, a landlord-tenant paper describes a possession dispute and asks staff to process it as an ordinary plenary civil action. What should the clerk recognize?

A. The clerk should decide possession before accepting any paper.

B. The clerk should create a criminal case because eviction affects housing.

C. The matter may fall within the specialized summary-proceeding framework and requires its own documents and workflow.

D. Every possession dispute follows the same path as a contract action.

81. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when a litigant asks for immediate help at the counter, a file concerns a possible involuntary mental-health placement and staff are unsure whether ordinary civil intake is sufficient. What is the best response?

A. Identify the applicable Mental Hygiene Law article and route the specialized filing under its authorized procedure.

B. Disclose the file broadly because safety concerns remove confidentiality.

C. Process it as an ordinary motion because a judge may become involved.

D. Reject it because mental-health matters cannot be filed in court.

82. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a handoff between the courtroom and clerk's office, a vehicle-related criminal paper is filed and staff are asked to treat it as unrelated administrative correspondence. What should the clerk do?

A. Treat it as a civil complaint without checking the charge or court.

B. Classify the paper under the applicable criminal and vehicle-law workflow and preserve its connection to the case.

C. Return it to the filer and ask the filer to choose the case type.

D. Discard it because vehicle matters are never part of a criminal file.

83. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while preparing a file for judicial review, a file contains a missing service proof, a confidential exhibit, and a scheduled appearance. What should a senior clerk do first?

A. Focus only on the scheduled appearance and ignore the missing proof.

B. Wait for a party to identify every problem in the file.

C. Stabilize the high-risk record, verify the next event, and assign or perform each corrective step with documentation.

D. Release the exhibit to save time before the appearance.

84. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a filing arrives with incomplete supporting papers, a clerk discovers that an entry was made in the wrong case but the paper itself is still available. Which response is best?

A. Delete the entry and reenter it without leaving a history.

B. Move the paper to the correct case without correcting the electronic entry.

C. Leave the error because the paper can be found later.

D. Preserve the original trace, correct the entry through authorized procedure, and document the review and notification steps.

85. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when staff are processing several matters at once, a litigant asks a senior clerk for a prediction about how a judge will rule. How should the clerk respond?

A. Provide authorized procedural information without predicting or recommending a judicial outcome.

B. Predict the result based on similar cases handled previously.

C. Promise that the judge will consider the litigant's preferred result.

D. Recommend the strongest legal argument after reviewing the file.

86. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a quality-control review of recently entered cases, a senior clerk must explain a correction to a staff member who made an honest filing error. Which approach is most effective?

A. Ignore the error to preserve morale and hope it does not recur.

B. Protect the affected record, teach the correct process, and document the corrective action without humiliating the employee.

C. Publicly blame the employee before checking the record's impact.

D. Correct the file secretly and provide no process guidance.

87. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while a senior clerk is assigning work to the team, a paper is delivered with a caption and requested relief, but a party asks the clerk to reject it because the allegations seem weak. What is the best response?

A. Rewrite the allegations so the requested relief appears more persuasive.

B. Reject the paper after independently judging whether the allegations are true.

C. Promise the party that the court will grant the requested relief.

D. Process the paper under the governing intake procedure and route merits issues to the authorized decision-maker.

88. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a crowded morning calendar, a supervisor assigns a time-sensitive filing while two routine tasks are pending. Which approach best reflects senior-clerk judgment?

A. Protect the urgent record first, assign clear ownership, and document the remaining work for follow-up.

B. Work on all three tasks informally and leave no written status note.

C. Transfer every task to the newest employee without checking risk.

D. Delay the urgent filing until every routine task has been completed.

89. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at a branch office handling several urgent papers, a question refers to a summons, complaint, and answer in a civil matter. Which description is most accurate?

A. The summons is a judicial opinion, the complaint is a calendar entry, and the answer is a warrant.

B. The summons decides the claims, the complaint enforces judgment, and the answer starts service.

C. The summons gives notice of the action, the complaint states claims, and the answer responds to those claims.

D. The summons is an exhibit, the complaint is a sentence, and the answer is a jury verdict.

90. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while reviewing a file before the next appearance, a litigant calls every court paper an order. What should the clerk do first when the distinction matters?

A. Assume the paper is an order whenever it contains a date or signature.

B. Review the document's title, issuing authority, operative language, and filing context.

C. Treat the litigant's label as conclusive and enter the paper without review.

D. Replace the paper with a standard order form without authorization.

91. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a supervisor notices a discrepancy in the case jacket, a party asks a clerk to remove an unfavorable entry because it is embarrassing. What is the safest response?

A. Hide the entry from all future users without documenting the change.
B. Delete the entry immediately to reduce the party's concern.
C. Create a replacement entry that omits the unfavorable information.
D. Preserve the official record and route any request for correction or relief through the authorized process.

92. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at the close of a busy session, an exhibit is handed to courtroom staff during a proceeding. Which control is most important?

A. Maintain custody, identify the exhibit, and record its movement according to court procedure.
B. Store it with unrelated papers so the file remains compact.
C. Return it to a party without confirming the judge's direction or the record.
D. Permit informal circulation because the exhibit is already in the courtroom.

93. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when a litigant asks for immediate help at the counter, a civil action is being opened and staff must decide which paper initiates the case. Which principle governs?

A. Wait for a judgment before opening the case record.
B. Identify the authorized initiating paper and record the commencement event under the applicable procedure.
C. Use whichever paper is longest because it likely contains the most information.
D. Treat a motion as the initiating paper in every civil action.

94. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a handoff between the courtroom and clerk's office, a response paper is received after a complaint, and the caption identifies the same parties. What should the clerk verify before entry?

A. Whether the response agrees with the complaint's factual allegations.

B. Whether the clerk personally believes the defense will prevail.

C. The filing's case identity, document type, receipt information, and any required authorization or fee status.

D. Whether the responding party has already won the dispute.

95. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while preparing a file for judicial review, a party claims that a motion should be decided immediately because the opposing paper is inconvenient to process. What is the proper clerk response?

A. Grant the motion administratively to avoid delay.

B. Rewrite the motion so the requested relief is narrower.

C. Process and calendar the motion under the governing rule and court direction without deciding its merits.

D. Refuse to accept the motion because the opposing paper is difficult to review.

96. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a filing arrives with incomplete supporting papers, a party presents proof of service and asks staff to mark the case ready for the next procedural step. What should control?

A. The clerk's guess about when the opposing party probably received notice.

B. The party's assurance that service occurred, without supporting proof.

C. The number of pages in the service packet.

D. The authorized proof, filing record, applicable rule, and any court order governing the next event.

97. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when staff are processing several matters at once, an order is submitted after a decision, and the proposed text appears to add relief not described in that decision. What is the best action?

A. Compare the proposed order with the decision and route any inconsistency for authorized correction before processing.

B. Delete the additional relief without notifying anyone.

C. Enter the proposed order because a signed paper can never conflict with a decision.

D. Advise the parties that the added relief will certainly be enforced.

98. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a quality-control review of recently entered cases, a judgment is entered and a party asks staff to enforce it by creating a remedy not stated in the judgment. What should happen?

A. Tell the party that the clerk personally approves enforcement.

B. Create the requested remedy because the judgment is final.

C. Change the judgment to include the remedy without judicial action.

D. Process the judgment as entered and require authorized legal process or direction for any additional remedy.

99. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while a senior clerk is assigning work to the team, a party asks for a copy of a paper but the access status is unclear. Which response best protects the record?

A. Verify the case and access status, then release or withhold the paper under the authorized procedure.

B. Provide the paper because every court document is automatically unrestricted.

C. Ask the requesting party to decide whether the record is confidential.

D. Refuse all requests because access questions are never clerical.

100. Before a sealed-record request is answered, during a crowded morning calendar, an arrested person is brought before the court for the first appearance in the criminal case. What is the clerk's primary classification task?

A. Treat the event as sentencing because the person is already in custody.

B. Recognize the arraignment-stage event and process the accusatory instrument, appearance, and court direction accurately.

C. Treat the event as a civil conference because a lawyer is present.

D. Treat the event as a final appeal because the case is on a calendar.

101. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at a branch office handling several urgent papers, a criminal file contains an accusatory instrument, a calendar entry, and a proposed order. Which review should come first?

A. Treat the proposed order as effective without checking the court's direction.

B. Choose the document with the most severe language and ignore the others.

C. Match each document to the same defendant and case, then verify the event and authority associated with it.

D. Assume the calendar entry replaces the accusatory instrument.

102. Before a sealed-record request is answered, while reviewing a file before the next appearance, a party asks the clerk to change a criminal charge on the record because the party believes another charge would be easier to prove. What is proper?

A. Replace the charge based on the party's request at the counter.

B. Preserve the existing record and route any change through the authorized prosecutorial or judicial process.

C. Remove the charge until the parties agree on a replacement.

D. Choose the charge that appears most consistent with the available evidence.

103. Before a sealed-record request is answered, after a supervisor notices a discrepancy in the case jacket, a criminal matter has a court-ordered appearance, but the electronic calendar and paper file show different dates. What should the clerk do?

A. Tell the parties to choose the date that works for them.

B. Delete both dates and wait for a party to complain.

C. Reconcile the discrepancy against the controlling order and authorized calendar record, then document the correction or escalation.

D. Use whichever date is easier for staff to remember.

104. Before a sealed-record request is answered, at the close of a busy session, a sealed or restricted criminal record is requested by a person whose authorization is not apparent. What is the best response?

A. Ask the requester to promise not to share the information.

B. Read the record aloud but decline to provide a copy.

C. Release the record because the requester knows the defendant's name.

D. Verify the legal authorization and access status before releasing anything, and escalate uncertainty through the designated channel.

105. Before a sealed-record request is answered, when a litigant asks for immediate help at the counter, a question describes conduct and asks which legal classification should be considered first. What is the most reliable approach?

A. Identify the conduct, mental state, and statutory context before selecting a classification.

B. Use a civil label whenever the conduct caused no immediate injury.

C. Choose the most serious-sounding label without analyzing the facts.

D. Classify the conduct solely by the person's motive or reputation.

Practice Exam 28: Answer Key and Explanations

1. C — The controlling source and traceable correction govern when criminal calendar records conflict. A date discrepancy can affect notice, custody, and courtroom readiness, so it requires verification rather than guesswork. Compare the order and entries, identify the authoritative source, correct through procedure, and notify authorized recipients. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

2. D — Restricted criminal information requires an authorization-based access decision. Identity alone does not establish a right to inspect or receive protected material. The other choices disclose information without authority or rely on an unenforceable promise. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

3. B — Penal classification depends on statutory elements and context, not on emotion or a single consequence. A clerk needs accurate terminology and routing, while the legal determination remains governed by the controlling statute and authority. List the material facts, identify the governing provision, and route any charging or merits decision to the authorized actor.

4. A — The clerk should identify what the record actually says and avoid expanding its meaning beyond the authorized disposition. The other choices are absolute and confuse record function with adjudication. Read the operative document, identify its procedural effect, and route interpretive disputes to the proper authority. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

5. C — Family Court workflow depends on the matter and relief requested, not simply on the relationship between parties. The other choices ignore the requested relief or make access depend on convenience. Identify the statutory matter, match the petition and parties, and correct or escalate under established procedure. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

6. C — Urgency changes the speed of routing, not the clerk's authority to decide relief. The record must show prompt handling while judicial or authorized decision-making remains intact. The other choices either delay safety processing or substitute staff judgment for an order. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

7. D — Clerks process orders and filings but do not replace judicial interpretation or enforcement decisions. The order's language and procedural posture must be preserved while the requested relief follows the proper path. Locate the operative order, document the request, and explain the authorized filing or referral route. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

8. B — Support records require accurate processing, protected handling, and fidelity to the court's order. Financial information is both procedurally relevant and sensitive, so access and alteration must be controlled. The other choices disclose, destroy, or change information without authority. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

9. A — Order and service records answer different questions and must not be treated as interchangeable. A safe response protects the record and avoids asserting service or disclosure authority that the file does not establish. Match the request to the operative order, verify access and service entries, and route any uncertainty promptly.

10. A — A rule applies only within its stated scope and procedural setting. Scope analysis prevents a familiar citation from being used to justify the wrong workflow. The other choices either overread, underread, or replace the governing source. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

11. B — Clerks should not silently choose one source or change an order without authorization. The other choices create an unsupported hierarchy or substitute convenience for authority. Preserve the sources, identify the legal question each answers, and escalate the unresolved conflict. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

12. C — RPAPL Article 7 matters have specialized initiating papers, notice, appearances, judgments, and warrant-related steps. Recognizing the specialized setting prevents ordinary civil assumptions from misrouting the case. Classify the proceeding, verify the required papers and notice, and follow the specialized processing path. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

13. D — The clerk must recognize the statutory setting before selecting forms, access rules, and routing. The other choices collapse specialized practice into ordinary procedure or disregard confidentiality. Identify the article and case type, preserve sensitive materials, and follow the designated process. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

14. A — Special statutes may operate within a criminal or court-record setting and require accurate classification. Misclassification can affect notice, calendaring, records, and the authorized next step. The other choices discard, relabel, or delegate the classification without analysis. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

15. D — The senior response protects notice and confidentiality while keeping the calendar and correction path visible. The other choices ignore a risk, create a disclosure problem, or shift responsibility to outsiders. Prioritize the safety or notice risk, confirm the controlling event, document ownership, and escalate unresolved issues. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

16. C — Record corrections should be traceable and should preserve the relationship between the error and the authorized fix. A visible correction protects later reviewers and helps determine whether notice or calendar consequences must be addressed. Identify the wrong case, preserve evidence of the original action, correct through procedure, and notify authorized reviewers.

17. B — The clerk can explain process, documents, and routing while preserving impartiality and the court's authority. The other choices create a prediction, advocacy, or promise that the clerk is not authorized to make. Answer the procedural question, identify the available filing or information channel, and avoid merits advice. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

18. A — Supervision combines immediate correction, staff development, and prevention of repeat errors. A respectful review preserves accountability while converting the incident into a reliable workflow improvement. The other choices either neglect risk, punish without analysis, or conceal the corrective process. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

19. C — Clerical receipt and processing must be kept separate from a judicial merits determination. The clerk can identify an administrative defect and follow the authorized route, but should not decide whether allegations deserve relief. Record the filing event, verify the applicable procedure, and escalate any sufficiency issue to the proper authority.

20. D — A senior clerk should stabilize the high-risk matter while maintaining a visible plan for routine work. The other choices either ignore urgency, create an undocumented backlog, or delegate without responsible oversight. Identify the trigger, set an owner and deadline, and create a record another reviewer can understand. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

21. B — Common civil documents have distinct procedural functions even when they appear in the same case file. Correct classification helps the clerk identify what was filed, what was served, and what procedural event follows. Name the document, state its function, and connect it to the event that brought it into the record.

22. D — The clerk must classify the record accurately before determining entry, service, calendaring, or routing. The other choices rely on shorthand labels, isolated features, or unauthorized rewriting. Verify

identity, authority, operative language, and context, then follow the established processing path. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

23. B — Court records should be altered only through an authorized correction, sealing, vacatur, or other process. The clerk protects integrity by preserving traceability while directing the request to the person or procedure empowered to act. Identify the requested relief, preserve the existing record, and document the authorized next step. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

24. A — Exhibit custody requires identification and traceable handling from receipt through disposition. A reliable chain of custody allows the court and later reviewers to determine what was received and where it went. Label the item, record the responsible handoff, and follow the authorized storage or return instruction. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

25. C — Commencement depends on the case type and the authorized initiating document, not on length or convenience. Correct intake establishes the case identity and prevents later filings from being misclassified as commencement papers. Classify the case, verify the initiating document, and preserve the filing date and required record. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

26. A — Administrative entry requires accurate identification and compliance checks, not a prediction of the merits. The clerk's task is to preserve the procedural event and route any legal issue under the authorized rule. Match the caption and case number, classify the paper, record receipt, and follow the applicable intake checklist. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

27. C — Motions request judicial action; clerks support filing, notice, calendaring, and record accuracy. The clerk can identify a missing administrative requirement and route it, but cannot substitute convenience for judicial determination. Check the filing and service requirements, enter or route the papers, and preserve the scheduled procedural step. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

28. D — Service status is a record-based procedural fact that must be supported by authorized papers or entries. The clerk should not convert an assertion or estimate into a formal status when the record is incomplete. Review the proof, match it to the case, record the event, and route uncertainty through the established process.

29. B — An order should conform to the decision or direction that authorizes it. Conformance review protects the record from silently expanding or changing judicial relief. The other choices accept inconsistency, make an undocumented alteration, or promise an outcome. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

30. D — Clerical entry of a judgment does not authorize staff to expand its substantive relief. Enforcement must follow the judgment and the governing legal process, with judicial authority where required. Identify the operative judgment, record the request, and route any new relief through the proper process. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

31. B — Access is determined by applicable law, rule, order, and record status, not by assumption. A clerk should provide accurate service while protecting confidential or restricted information. Confirm identity and authorization, check the record status, and document the response or escalation. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

32. A — Arraignment is a procedural stage at which the accusatory instrument and court direction must be accurately recorded. Correct stage recognition controls the documents, entries, notices, and next event in the criminal record. Identify the stage, verify the accusatory instrument and parties, record the appearance, and enter the court's direction. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

33. C — Criminal records depend on accurate identity, stage, document function, and judicial authority. The other choices rank documents by tone, collapse distinct records, or assume authority. Reconcile the case identifiers, classify each paper, and record only the authorized procedural consequence. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

34. D — The clerk records authorized criminal-process events but does not select or revise charges independently. Charge changes affect the legal proceeding and must arise through the process recognized by law and court action. Identify the request, preserve the file, and route it to the authorized actor without altering the record. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

35. B — The controlling source and traceable correction govern when criminal calendar records conflict. A date discrepancy can affect notice, custody, and courtroom readiness, so it requires verification rather than guesswork. Compare the order and entries, identify the authoritative source, correct through procedure, and notify authorized recipients. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

36. A — Restricted criminal information requires an authorization-based access decision. Identity alone does not establish a right to inspect or receive protected material. The other choices disclose information without authority or rely on an unenforceable promise. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

37. A — Penal classification depends on statutory elements and context, not on emotion or a single consequence. A clerk needs accurate terminology and routing, while the legal determination remains governed by the controlling statute and authority. List the material facts, identify the governing provision, and route any charging or merits decision to the authorized actor.

38. C — The clerk should identify what the record actually says and avoid expanding its meaning beyond the authorized disposition. The other choices are absolute and confuse record function with adjudication. Read the operative document, identify its procedural effect, and route interpretive disputes to the proper authority. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

39. B — Family Court workflow depends on the matter and relief requested, not simply on the relationship between parties. The other choices ignore the requested relief or make access depend on

convenience. Identify the statutory matter, match the petition and parties, and correct or escalate under established procedure. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

40. C — Urgency changes the speed of routing, not the clerk's authority to decide relief. The record must show prompt handling while judicial or authorized decision-making remains intact. The other choices either delay safety processing or substitute staff judgment for an order. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

41. D — Clerks process orders and filings but do not replace judicial interpretation or enforcement decisions. The order's language and procedural posture must be preserved while the requested relief follows the proper path. Locate the operative order, document the request, and explain the authorized filing or referral route. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

42. B — Support records require accurate processing, protected handling, and fidelity to the court's order. Financial information is both procedurally relevant and sensitive, so access and alteration must be controlled. The other choices disclose, destroy, or change information without authority. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

43. D — Order and service records answer different questions and must not be treated as interchangeable. A safe response protects the record and avoids asserting service or disclosure authority that the file does not establish. Match the request to the operative order, verify access and service entries, and route any uncertainty promptly.

44. C — A rule applies only within its stated scope and procedural setting. Scope analysis prevents a familiar citation from being used to justify the wrong workflow. The other choices either overread, underread, or replace the governing source. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

45. A — Clerks should not silently choose one source or change an order without authorization. The other choices create an unsupported hierarchy or substitute convenience for authority. Preserve the sources, identify the legal question each answers, and escalate the unresolved conflict. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

46. A — RPAPL Article 7 matters have specialized initiating papers, notice, appearances, judgments, and warrant-related steps. Recognizing the specialized setting prevents ordinary civil assumptions from misrouting the case. Classify the proceeding, verify the required papers and notice, and follow the specialized processing path. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

47. C — The clerk must recognize the statutory setting before selecting forms, access rules, and routing. The other choices collapse specialized practice into ordinary procedure or disregard confidentiality. Identify the article and case type, preserve sensitive materials, and follow the designated process. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

48. B — Special statutes may operate within a criminal or court-record setting and require accurate classification. Misclassification can affect notice, calendaring, records, and the authorized next step. The other choices discard, relabel, or delegate the classification without analysis. This also protects notice

and preserves a dependable history of the case. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

49. D — The senior response protects notice and confidentiality while keeping the calendar and correction path visible. The other choices ignore a risk, create a disclosure problem, or shift responsibility to outsiders. Prioritize the safety or notice risk, confirm the controlling event, document ownership, and escalate unresolved issues. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

50. B — Record corrections should be traceable and should preserve the relationship between the error and the authorized fix. A visible correction protects later reviewers and helps determine whether notice or calendar consequences must be addressed. Identify the wrong case, preserve evidence of the original action, correct through procedure, and notify authorized reviewers.

51. A — The clerk can explain process, documents, and routing while preserving impartiality and the court's authority. The other choices create a prediction, advocacy, or promise that the clerk is not authorized to make. Answer the procedural question, identify the available filing or information channel, and avoid merits advice. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

52. D — Supervision combines immediate correction, staff development, and prevention of repeat errors. A respectful review preserves accountability while converting the incident into a reliable workflow improvement. The other choices either neglect risk, punish without analysis, or conceal the corrective process. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

53. C — Clerical receipt and processing must be kept separate from a judicial merits determination. The clerk can identify an administrative defect and follow the authorized route, but should not decide whether allegations deserve relief. Record the filing event, verify the applicable procedure, and escalate any sufficiency issue to the proper authority.

54. B — A senior clerk should stabilize the high-risk matter while maintaining a visible plan for routine work. The other choices either ignore urgency, create an undocumented backlog, or delegate without responsible oversight. Identify the trigger, set an owner and deadline, and create a record another reviewer can understand. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

55. A — Common civil documents have distinct procedural functions even when they appear in the same case file. Correct classification helps the clerk identify what was filed, what was served, and what procedural event follows. Name the document, state its function, and connect it to the event that brought it into the record.

56. C — The clerk must classify the record accurately before determining entry, service, calendaring, or routing. The other choices rely on shorthand labels, isolated features, or unauthorized rewriting. Verify identity, authority, operative language, and context, then follow the established processing path. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

57. D — Court records should be altered only through an authorized correction, sealing, vacatur, or other process. The clerk protects integrity by preserving traceability while directing the request to the

person or procedure empowered to act. Identify the requested relief, preserve the existing record, and document the authorized next step. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

58. D — Exhibit custody requires identification and traceable handling from receipt through disposition. A reliable chain of custody allows the court and later reviewers to determine what was received and where it went. Label the item, record the responsible handoff, and follow the authorized storage or return instruction. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

59. C — Commencement depends on the case type and the authorized initiating document, not on length or convenience. Correct intake establishes the case identity and prevents later filings from being misclassified as commencement papers. Classify the case, verify the initiating document, and preserve the filing date and required record. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

60. B — Administrative entry requires accurate identification and compliance checks, not a prediction of the merits. The clerk's task is to preserve the procedural event and route any legal issue under the authorized rule. Match the caption and case number, classify the paper, record receipt, and follow the applicable intake checklist. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

61. A — Motions request judicial action; clerks support filing, notice, calendaring, and record accuracy. The clerk can identify a missing administrative requirement and route it, but cannot substitute convenience for judicial determination. Check the filing and service requirements, enter or route the papers, and preserve the scheduled procedural step. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

62. D — Service status is a record-based procedural fact that must be supported by authorized papers or entries. The clerk should not convert an assertion or estimate into a formal status when the record is incomplete. Review the proof, match it to the case, record the event, and route uncertainty through the established process.

63. C — An order should conform to the decision or direction that authorizes it. Conformance review protects the record from silently expanding or changing judicial relief. The other choices accept inconsistency, make an undocumented alteration, or promise an outcome. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

64. B — Clerical entry of a judgment does not authorize staff to expand its substantive relief. Enforcement must follow the judgment and the governing legal process, with judicial authority where required. Identify the operative judgment, record the request, and route any new relief through the proper process. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

65. D — Access is determined by applicable law, rule, order, and record status, not by assumption. A clerk should provide accurate service while protecting confidential or restricted information. Confirm

identity and authorization, check the record status, and document the response or escalation. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

66. A — Arraignment is a procedural stage at which the accusatory instrument and court direction must be accurately recorded. Correct stage recognition controls the documents, entries, notices, and next event in the criminal record. Identify the stage, verify the accusatory instrument and parties, record the appearance, and enter the court's direction. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

67. C — Criminal records depend on accurate identity, stage, document function, and judicial authority. The other choices rank documents by tone, collapse distinct records, or assume authority. Reconcile the case identifiers, classify each paper, and record only the authorized procedural consequence. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

68. B — The clerk records authorized criminal-process events but does not select or revise charges independently. Charge changes affect the legal proceeding and must arise through the process recognized by law and court action. Identify the request, preserve the file, and route it to the authorized actor without altering the record. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

69. A — The controlling source and traceable correction govern when criminal calendar records conflict. A date discrepancy can affect notice, custody, and courtroom readiness, so it requires verification rather than guesswork. Compare the order and entries, identify the authoritative source, correct through procedure, and notify authorized recipients. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

70. C — Restricted criminal information requires an authorization-based access decision. Identity alone does not establish a right to inspect or receive protected material. The other choices disclose information without authority or rely on an unenforceable promise. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

71. B — Penal classification depends on statutory elements and context, not on emotion or a single consequence. A clerk needs accurate terminology and routing, while the legal determination remains governed by the controlling statute and authority. List the material facts, identify the governing provision, and route any charging or merits decision to the authorized actor.

72. D — The clerk should identify what the record actually says and avoid expanding its meaning beyond the authorized disposition. The other choices are absolute and confuse record function with adjudication. Read the operative document, identify its procedural effect, and route interpretive disputes to the proper authority. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

73. A — Family Court workflow depends on the matter and relief requested, not simply on the relationship between parties. The other choices ignore the requested relief or make access depend on convenience. Identify the statutory matter, match the petition and parties, and correct or escalate under established procedure. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

74. A — Urgency changes the speed of routing, not the clerk's authority to decide relief. The record must show prompt handling while judicial or authorized decision-making remains intact. The other choices either delay safety processing or substitute staff judgment for an order. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

75. B — Clerks process orders and filings but do not replace judicial interpretation or enforcement decisions. The order's language and procedural posture must be preserved while the requested relief follows the proper path. Locate the operative order, document the request, and explain the authorized filing or referral route. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

76. C — Support records require accurate processing, protected handling, and fidelity to the court's order. Financial information is both procedurally relevant and sensitive, so access and alteration must be controlled. The other choices disclose, destroy, or change information without authority. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

77. D — Order and service records answer different questions and must not be treated as interchangeable. A safe response protects the record and avoids asserting service or disclosure authority that the file does not establish. Match the request to the operative order, verify access and service entries, and route any uncertainty promptly.

78. D — A rule applies only within its stated scope and procedural setting. Scope analysis prevents a familiar citation from being used to justify the wrong workflow. The other choices either overread, underread, or replace the governing source. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

79. B — Clerks should not silently choose one source or change an order without authorization. The other choices create an unsupported hierarchy or substitute convenience for authority. Preserve the sources, identify the legal question each answers, and escalate the unresolved conflict. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

80. C — RPAPL Article 7 matters have specialized initiating papers, notice, appearances, judgments, and warrant-related steps. Recognizing the specialized setting prevents ordinary civil assumptions from misrouting the case. Classify the proceeding, verify the required papers and notice, and follow the specialized processing path. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

81. A — The clerk must recognize the statutory setting before selecting forms, access rules, and routing. The other choices collapse specialized practice into ordinary procedure or disregard confidentiality. Identify the article and case type, preserve sensitive materials, and follow the designated process. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

82. B — Special statutes may operate within a criminal or court-record setting and require accurate classification. Misclassification can affect notice, calendaring, records, and the authorized next step. The other choices discard, relabel, or delegate the classification without analysis. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case. That discipline supports accurate access decisions and later review.

83. C — The senior response protects notice and confidentiality while keeping the calendar and correction path visible. The other choices ignore a risk, create a disclosure problem, or shift responsibility to outsiders. Prioritize the safety or notice risk, confirm the controlling event, document ownership, and escalate unresolved issues. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

84. D — Record corrections should be traceable and should preserve the relationship between the error and the authorized fix. A visible correction protects later reviewers and helps determine whether notice or calendar consequences must be addressed. Identify the wrong case, preserve evidence of the original action, correct through procedure, and notify authorized reviewers.

85. A — The clerk can explain process, documents, and routing while preserving impartiality and the court's authority. The other choices create a prediction, advocacy, or promise that the clerk is not authorized to make. Answer the procedural question, identify the available filing or information channel, and avoid merits advice. This also protects notice and preserves a dependable history of the case.

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