CIVIL

Pre-Trial Decision

13. **Bifurcation**

In order to avoid prejudice or for court convenience, a court may bifurcate a trial. M. R. Civ. P. 42(b). "The decision whether to bifurcate claims pursuant to this rule is a matter left to the broad discretion of the district court." ***Eklund v. Trost***, 2006 MT 333, ¶ 48, 335 Mont. 112, 151 P.3d 870 (citations omitted). On appeal, we review a decision to bifurcate for abuse of discretion, the test for abuse of discretion. ***Eklund***, ¶ 48 (citation omitted).