

1300 (11th Cir. 2002). “If a motion to intervene is untimely, intervention must be denied.” NAACP v. New York, 413 U.S. 345, 365 (1973). Per Jefferson Cty., 720 F.2d 1511: “we review the court's action only for an abuse of discretion....”

The Court has considered the relevant factors. The motion was filed after the close of discovery and with the Final Pretrial Conference scheduled for December 4, 2014 (with the parties’ proposed pretrial report due seven (7) days prior), and jury trial set for January 2015. Defendants propose to allow for a third-party complaint at this juncture, and then *also* allow for additional time within which Defendants may file a cross-claim “in each third-party action against that particular third-party defendant.” The Defendants basis for the non-parties’ intervention is vague -- “to protect their interests, because no existing party will.” The Defendants’ explanation for the failure to intervene before now is unsatisfactory, particularly given their knowledge of the issue of exposure and when the proposed intervenors should have reasonably known of their interest (during the July 2014 settlement conference).¹ The parties have further failed to present any unusual circumstances militating for a determination that the application is timely, citing only the nature of this case (insurance and maritime) as grounds. The parties have also failed to establish the extent of prejudice to the proposed intervenors if the motion is denied, apart from simply claiming prejudice.

Upon consideration, the Court, in its discretion, finds that under the circumstances the motion is untimely and is thus it is **ORDERED** that the motion (Docs. 62, 63) is **DENIED**.

DONE and ORDERED this the 14th day of **November 2014**.

/s/ Kristi K. DuBose
KRISTI K. DuBOSE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

¹ Defendants even admit that “[f]unctionally, Underwriters knew or should have known of their interest from and after the Settlement Conference...[o]nce the parties were unable to resolve their differences...the Underwriters effectively knew that their exposure and the potential for them to be called upon to respond on behalf o their assured...was real...”