

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT

LOCAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE LOCAL

RULES FOR MAGISTRATE JUDGES LOCAL

RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

Amended December 1, 2009

RULE 7

MOTION PROCEDURES

(a) Procedures

1. Any motion involving disputed issues of law shall be accompanied by a written memorandum of law and shall indicate in the lower margin of the motion whether oral argument is requested. Failure to submit a memorandum may be deemed sufficient cause to deny the motion. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, all memoranda in opposition to any motion shall be filed within twenty-one (21) days of the filing of the motion, and shall indicate in the lower margin of the first page of such memorandum whether oral argument is requested. Failure to submit a memorandum in opposition to a motion may be deemed sufficient cause to grant the motion, except where the pleadings provide sufficient grounds to deny the motion. Nothing in this Rule shall require the Judge ruling on the motion to review portions of the record in response to a motion, where the moving papers do not make specific reference to such portions of the record. Notwithstanding that a request for oral argument has been made, the Judge may, in his or her discretion, deny such request. To expedite a decision or for other good cause, the Court may, on notice to all parties, rule on a motion before expiration of the 21-day period ordinarily permitted for filing opposition papers.

2. Except by permission of the Court, briefs or memoranda shall not exceed forty (40) 8 1/2" by 11" pages of double spaced standard typographical print, exclusive of pages containing a table of contents, table of statutes, rules or the like. The original of all motions or briefs shall be filed with the Clerk at the seat of Court where the Judge sits.

3. For good cause shown in the motion, a party may request expedited consideration of the motion by the Court by designating the motion as one seeking "emergency" relief.
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(b) Motions for Extensions of Time

1. Unless otherwise directed by a particular Judge with respect to cases on his or her docket, the Clerk is empowered to grant initial motions for extensions of time, not to exceed 30 days, in civil cases with regard to the following time limitations:

(a) the date for filing an answer or motion addressed to the complaint, counterclaim or third party complaint; and

(b) the date for serving responses to discovery requests.

2. All other motions for extensions of time must be decided by a Judge and will not be granted except for good cause. The good cause standard requires a particularized showing that the time limitation in question cannot reasonably be met despite the diligence of the party seeking the extension.

3. All motions for extensions of time, whether for consideration by the Clerk or a Judge, shall include a statement of the moving counsel that (1) he or she has inquired of opposing counsel and there is agreement or objection to the motion, or that (2) despite diligent effort, he or she cannot ascertain opposing counsel's position. All such motions shall also indicate the number of motions for extension of time that have been filed by the moving party with respect to the same limitation. The motion may be granted ex parte notwithstanding a report of objection by opposing counsel. Opposing counsel may move within seven (7) days of an order granting a motion for extension of time to have the Court set aside the order for good cause. Agreement of counsel as to any extension of time does not of itself extend any time limitation or provide good cause for failing to comply with a deadline established by the federal rules of civil procedure, these rules or the Court.

(c) Motions for Reconsideration

1. Motions for reconsideration shall be filed and served within fourteen (14) days of the filing of the decision or order from which such relief is sought, and shall be accompanied by a memorandum setting forth concisely the matters or controlling decisions which counsel believes the Court overlooked in the initial decision or order.

2. In all other respects, motions for reconsideration shall proceed in accordance with Rule 7(a)1 of these Local Rules.

(d) Reply Briefs

Reply briefs are not required and the absence of a reply brief will not prejudice the moving party. Any reply brief must be filed within fourteen (14) days of the filing of the responsive brief to which reply is being made, as computed under Fed. R. Civ. P. 6. A reply brief may not exceed 10 pages, must be strictly confined to a discussion of matters raised by the responsive brief and must contain references to the pages of the responsive brief to which reply is being made.

(e) Withdrawal of Appearances

Withdrawal of appearances may be accomplished only by leave of Court on motion duly noticed, and normally shall not be granted except upon a showing that other counsel has appeared or that the party has elected to proceed pro se, and that the party whose counsel seeks to withdraw has received actual notice by personal service or by certified mail of the motion to withdraw. In cases where the party has failed to engage other counsel or file a pro se appearance, where good cause exists for permitting the withdrawal by the appearing counsel, the Court may grant the motion to withdraw the appearance after notice to the party that failure to either engage successor counsel or file a pro se appearance will result in the granting of the motion to withdraw and may result in a dismissal or default being entered against the party.

(f) Motions to Amend Pleadings

Any motion to amend a party's pleading under Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a) that requires leave of court shall include a statement of the moving counsel that: (1) he or she has inquired of opposing counsel and there is agreement or objection to the motion; or (2) despite diligent effort, he or she cannot ascertain opposing counsel's position.