IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

CASENO.	
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RULE 26 INSTRUCTION ORDER

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f) requires the parties to confer, develop a proposed discovery plan, and submit a report to this Court. Subsequent to the filing of the report, a Scheduling Order must be entered pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b). Therefore, the parties shall confer as provided in Federal Rule 26(f) by the earlier of 60 days after any defendant has been served with the complaint or 45 days after any defendant has appeared.

See L.R. 26.1(a). Thereafter, within 14 days after the required conference held pursuant to Rule 26(f), the parties shall submit to the Court a written report conforming to the language and format of the Rule 26(f) Report attached to this Order outlining their discovery plan. See L.R. 26.1(b).

Except in unusually protracted or complex cases, the parties will be expected to adhere to the following deadlines and limitations:

- 1. The parties shall serve <u>all written discovery</u> on opposing parties and shall complete all depositions within **140 days** of the filing of the last answer of the defendants named in the original complaint. <u>See</u> L.R. 26.1(d)(i).
- 2. The plaintiff must furnish the <u>expert witness reports</u> required by Federal Rule 26(a)(2) within 60 days after the Rule 26(f) conference. <u>See</u> L.R. 26.1(d)(ii).

¹The Local Rules may be found on the Court's website at www.gasd.uscourts.gov.

- 3. The defendant must furnish the <u>expert witness reports</u> required by Federal Rule 26(a)(2) within 90 days after the Rule 26(f) conference (or 60 days after the answer, whichever is later). <u>See</u> L.R. 26.1(d)(iii).
- 4. The last day for <u>filing motions to add or join parties or amend the pleadings</u> is 60 days after the first answer of the defendants named in the original complaint. <u>See</u> L.R. 16.3.
- 5. The last day for <u>filing all other motions</u>, excluding motions in limine, is 30 days after the close of discovery. <u>See</u> L.R. 7.4.

Plaintiff's counsel, or, if applicable, the *pro se* plaintiff, shall ensure that a copy of this Order is served upon all parties. Finally, a party who cannot gain the cooperation of the other party in preparing the Rule 26(f) Report should advise the Court prior to the due date of the report of the other party's failure to cooperate.

SO ORDERED.

BRIAN K. EPPS

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

			DIVISION
	Plaintiff))))))	Case No.
	Defendant)	
	of Rule 26(f) conferes or counsel who p	rence:	REPORTated in conference:
	y defendant has yet adant and state who		erved, please identify the ce is expected.
defer	ndant and state who	en servi	
Date If any Rule	the Rule 26(a)(1) d y party objects to m 26(a)(1) or propose osures,	en servi lisclosur naking t es chang	ce is expected. res were made or will be made: the initial disclosures required b
Date If any Rule discle	the Rule 26(a)(1) d y party objects to m 26(a)(1) or propose osures, Identify the party	en servi lisclosur naking t es chang	res were made or will be made: The initial disclosures required be to the timing or form of those
Date If any Rule discle	the Rule 26(a)(1) d y party objects to m 26(a)(1) or propose osures, Identify the party	en servi lisclosur naking t es chang	res were made or will be made: The initial disclosures required be to the timing or form of those

	Local Rules provide a 140-day period for discovery. If any ty is requesting additional time for discovery,
(a)	Identify the party or parties requesting additional time:
(b)	State the number of months the parties are requesting for discovery:
onths	
(c)	Identify the reason(s) for requesting additional time for discovery:
	Unusually large number of parties
,	Unusually large number of claims or defenses
	Unusually large number of witnesses
	Exceptionally complex factual issues
	Need for discovery outside the United States
	Other:
(d)	Please provide a brief statement in support of each of the reasons identified above:

	ny party is requesting that discovers or conducted in phases, please	
(a)	Identify the party or parties re	questing such limits:
(b)	State the nature of any propose	ed limits:
	Local Rules provide, and the Cowing deadlines:	urt generally imposes, the
	t day for filing motions to add oin parties or amend pleadings	60 days after issue is joined
	t day to furnish expert witness ort by plaintiff	60 days after Rule26(f) conference
	t day to furnish expert witness ort by a defendant	90 days after Rule 26(f) conference (or 60 days after the answer, whichever is later)

reach an agreement:

9.

	(a)	State whether the parties have reached an agreement regarding the procedures for asserting claims of privilege of protection after production of either electronic or other discovery material:
	(b)	Briefly describe the terms of any agreement the parties wi to have memoralized in the scheduling order (or attach any separate proposed order which the parties are requesting the Court to enter addressing such matters):
	(c)	Identify any issues regarding claims of privilege or protection as to which the parties have been unable to read an agreement:
11.	Stat orde	te any other matters the Court should include in its schedul