

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA CASE NO. $C \vee 616 - 060$

GENERAL 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, by the *earlier* of **60 days** after any defendant has been served with the complaint or **45 days** after any defendant has appeared, the parties shall confer as provided in Rule 26(f). <u>See</u> L.R. 26.1(a). 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. L.R. 26.1(b); *see* Appendix of Forms to Local Rules.

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

Plaintiff's counsel shall ensure that a copy of this Order is served upon each party. 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.

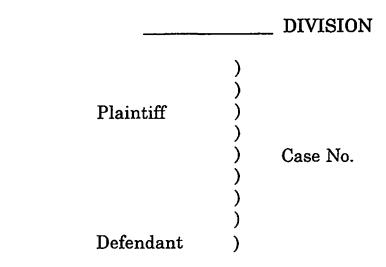
SO ORDERED.

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA



RULE 26(f) REPORT

1. Date of Rule 26(f) conference:

v.

- 2. Parties or counsel who participated in conference:
- 3. If any defendant has yet to be served, please identify the defendant and state when service is expected.
- 4. Date the Rule 26(a)(1) disclosures were made or will be made:
- 5. If any party objects to making the initial disclosures required by Rule 26(a)(1) or proposes changes to the timing or form of those disclosures,
 - (a) Identify the party or parties making the objection or proposal:
 - (b) Specify the objection or proposal:

6.	The Local Rules provide a 140-day period for discovery. If any party 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:	
mon	ths		
	(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	
	(d)	Other: Please provide a brief statement in support of each of the reasons identified above:	

	ny party is requesting that disco les or conducted in phases, pleas		
(a)	Identify the party or parties re	equesting such limits:	
(b)	State the nature of any proposed limits:		
	Local Rules provide, and the Co wing deadlines:	urt generally imposes, the	
Last	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)	

Last day to file motions

30 days after close of discovery

If any party requests a modification of any of these deadlines,

(a) Identify the party or parties requesting the modification:

(b) State which deadline should be modified and the reason supporting the request:

9. If the case involves electronic discovery,

- (a) State whether the parties have reached an agreement regarding the preservation, disclosure, or discovery of electronically stored information, and if the parties prefer to have their agreement memoralized in the scheduling order, briefly describe the terms of their agreement:
- (b) Identify any issues regarding electronically stored information as to which the parties have been unable to reach an agreement:

- 10. If the case is known to involve claims of privilege or protection of trial preparation material,
 - (a) State whether the parties have reached an agreement regarding the procedures for asserting claims of privilege or protection after production of either electronic or other discovery material:
 - (b) Briefly describe the terms of any agreement the parties wish 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 reach an agreement:

- 11. State any other matters the Court should include in its scheduling order:
- 12. The parties certify by their signatures below that they have discussed the nature and basis of their claims and defenses and

the possibilities for prompt settlement or resolution of the case. Please state any specific problems that have created a hindrance to the settlement of the case:

This ______ day of ______, 20 .

Signed: ______ Attorney for Plaintiff

Attorney for Defendant