

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

IN RE: Amendments to the Local Rules
of the United States District Court
for the Middle District of Florida

CASE NO. 8:20-mc-100-T-23

**ORDER DELAYING EFFECTIVE DATE
OF NEW LOCAL RULES UNTIL FEBRUARY 1, 2021**

An October 27, 2020, order adopted new Local Rules effective January 1, 2021. See Case No. 8:20-mc-100-T-23 at Doc. 2. The new Local Rules are available on the Court's website at fmd.uscourts.gov/local-rules.

A Deferred Effective Date

To allow the Bench and Bar additional time to prepare, the effective date of the new Local Rules is deferred until **February 1, 2021**.

Retrospective or Prospective?

The new Local Rules govern in all proceedings commenced on and after February 1, 2021, and, insofar as just and practicable, in all proceedings then pending. Practitioners need not alter any paper in any pending action if the paper was filed before February 1, 2021. For example, practitioners need not amend a case management report filed before February 1, 2021.

Highlights of the New Rules

The new Local Rules feature many important changes. Each lawyer and each pro se party appearing in the Middle District should carefully read the new Local Rules in their entirety to ensure compliance. (The good news is that the new Local Rules

are shorter and more readable than the old ones.) Among the important changes in the new rules are:

- a thorough re-numbering and re-organization;
- a set of definitions, such as “lead counsel” (Rule 1.01(d));
- additional requirements for lead counsel (Rules 1.01(d), 1.07(c), 2.02(a), 4.03(d), 7.01(c)(4)(E), and 7.01(c)(5)(B));
- a re-filing requirement for a motion pending in state court at the time of removal (Rule 1.06(c));
- typography requirements, such as point size, typeface, spacing, and the like (Rule 1.08) (These should be strictly followed.);
- required titles for certain papers (Rule 1.09);
- prerequisites to sealing an item that another party or a non-party considers confidential (Rule 1.11);
- changed requirements for bar membership, special admission, and temporary admission, including elimination of the admission ceremony (Rule 2.01);
- elimination of requirement for local counsel (Rule 2.01(c));
- additional time to respond to certain important motions (Rule 3.01(c));
- automatic reply to a response to a motion for summary judgment (Rule 3.01(d));
- a supplement to the duty to confer (Rule 3.01(g));
- requirements for a notice of supplemental authority (Rule 3.01(i));
- modified requirements for case management (Rule 3.02), including elimination of the track system for case management;
- a requirement for a certificate of interested persons (Rule 3.03);
- a prohibition against a notice of unavailability (Rule 3.08(c));

- required decorum during a telephone or video proceeding (Rule 5.03(e));
- a bifurcated, post-judgment procedure for requesting an attorney's fee and related non-taxable expenses (Rule 7.01(a));
- elimination of requirement that a motion to compel discovery repeat verbatim each disputed discovery request and response; and
- elimination of requirement that a motion for class certification be filed early in the case.

ORDERED in Jacksonville, Florida on December 16, 2020.



Timothy J. Corrigan

TIMOTHY J. CORRIGAN
Chief United States District Judge