

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT**

Hon. Jeffrey Alker Meyer, U.S. District Judge

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISCOVERY DISPUTES

For cases where the parties are represented by counsel, Judge Meyer requires the following procedure with respect to any discovery dispute that counsel wish the Court to resolve.

1. **Pre-dispute consultation.** Before contacting chambers to schedule a telephonic discovery conference, counsel for parties to any discovery dispute are required by Rule 37(a)(1) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Local Civil Rule 37(a) to have conferred with one another and to have made a good faith effort to eliminate or reduce the area of controversy. This requires more than an exchange of emails; at a minimum, counsel must meet in person or by telephone in order to try to resolve their differences before presenting them to the Court for resolution.
2. **Initial telephone call to chambers.** Counsel for parties to discovery disputes must call chambers with counsel for each party on the line to advise that they have a discovery dispute and to identify with particularity the nature and scope of the dispute.
3. **Referral to U.S. Magistrate Judge or expedited letter briefing and hearing schedule.** Following this initial telephone call from counsel, Judge Meyer will either refer the matter to a U.S. Magistrate Judge, or schedule an in-person or by-telephone conference with counsel to rule on the dispute. Judge Meyer may also issue an expedited letter briefing schedule. Any letter briefs should be not more than 7 single-spaced pages exclusive of any necessary exhibit attachments.

When a discovery dispute concerns one or more discovery request(s) and Judge Meyer has ordered letter briefing, counsel's letter briefs must include a copy of the discovery request(s) at issue and the opposing party's written response to that particular request. Judge Meyer does not need the entire discovery request and response but requires only the particular portions of the discovery request and response at issue.

The procedures described above do not apply to cases where one or more of the parties is not represented by counsel. The parties in such cases should ensure they follow the requirements of Fed. R. Civ. P. 37 and Local Civil Rule 37 before the filing of a motion to compel discovery.