Agenda
Advisory Committee on Rules of Civil Procedure

February 23, 2011
4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Administrative Office of the Courts
Scott M. Matheson Courthouse
450 South State Street
Judicial Council Room, Suite N31

Approval of minutes.	Tab1	Fran Wikstrom
Rule 64D. Writs of garnishment	Tab 2	Tim Shea
Rule 63. Disability or disqualification of a judge.	Tab 3	Tim Shea
Simplified disclosure and discovery rules.	Tab 4	Fran Wikstrom

Committee Web Page: http://www.utcourts.gov/committees/civproc/

Meeting Schedule

March 23, 2011
April 27, 2011
May 25, 2011
June 22, 2011
September 28, 2011
October 26, 2011
November 16, 2011
January 25, 2012

Tab 1

MINUTES

UTAH SUPREME COURT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

Wednesday January 26, 2011
Administrative Office of the Courts

Francis M. Wikstrom, Presiding

PRESENT: Francis M. Wikstrom, Chair, Trystan B. Smith, Barbara L. Townsend, Honorable Kate Toomey, Francis J. Carney, Leslie W. Slaugh, Terrie T. McIntosh, Honorable Derek P. Pullan, Janet H. Smith, W. Todd Shaughnessy, Lincoln L. Davies, Jonathan O. Hafen, W. Cullen Battle

TELEPHONE: Lori Woffinden, Honorable Lyle R. Anderson, David W. Scofield, Honorable David O. Nuffer

EXCUSED: Robert J. Shelby, James T. Blanch

STAFF: Timothy M. Shea, Diane Abegglen, Sammi V. Anderson

I. INTRODUCTIONS.

Mr. Wikstrom called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. All committee members present introduced themselves briefly pursuant to the Rules of the Utah Supreme Court.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Mr. Wikstrom entertained comments from the committee concerning the December 2010 meeting minutes. No comments were made, a motion for the approval of the minutes was duly made, seconded and unanimously approved.

III. RULE 108. OBJECTIONS TO COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUESTS FOR HEARING FROM DISTRICT COURT JUDGES.

Mr. Shea reported that proposed revisions to this rule are now back from the Board of District Court Judges. The Board recommends that a de novo evidentiary hearing on objections to a commissioner's ruling be granted based on the subject matter of the particular proceeding. Examples of proceedings that warrant a de novo evidentiary hearing include civil commitment proceedings, co-habitant abuse proceedings and child custody proceedings. For all other issues, the party may request a hearing and the district court judge will determine whether the hearing will be based on argument and proffers, or whether it will conduct a de novo evidentiary hearing. A motion was made to approve the revisions and to send the proposed revisions out for comment. This motion was seconded and unanimously approved by committee.

IV. SIMPLIFIED RULES OF DISCOVERY.

A. RULE 26 - EXPERTS.

Mr. Shaughnessy circulated revisions to Rule 26(a)(3) and the committee discussed at length expert testimony under the revised rules, including expert depositions and reports, the timing of expert disclosures, how the revised rule will work in cases involving multiple parties on one side, the treatment of non-retained experts and trial demonstratives. The committee approved the proposed changes to Rule 26(a)(3), with a revised version of the rule to be circulated. The committee also discussed the ways in which the revisions to Rule 26(a)(3) may impact Rule 35. Mr. Shea proposed changing Rule 35(b) to read that "If the party requesting the examination wishes to call the examiner as a witness, the party shall disclose the expert as required by Rule 26(a)(3)." Under this change, the medical examiner is required to give the dictated medical report completed following the examination in all events. However, if the medical examiner is then called to testify, the witness must then also meet the requirements of Rule 26(a)(3). The committee approved this change.

B. RULE 26 (b).

The committee approved Mr. Battle's changes to proposed Rule 26(b) renumbering paragraphs and adding headings. The changes are intended to clarify the structure of the revised rule.

C. MULTI-TIER SYSTEM PROPOSAL.

Mr. Davies led a discussion on a potential multi-tier system. Tier I would consist of very small cases for which no discovery would be allowed. These cases would move to resolution very quickly. Tier III would resemble the system we have today, but with limits in place, and incorporating proportionality. Tier II is where the majority of cases would be swept. Having outlined a structure for purposes of discussion, Mr. Davies then identified a host of discussion points and questions relating to the respective tiers. Mr. Davies identified rough data from the Utah state court system suggesting a very high percentage of cases claim as little as $10,000 and are awarded amounts at judgment in that same neighborhood. Based on that data, a high volume of cases would appear to fall within Tier I. The committee discussed whether some discovery should be allowed in Tier I. Messrs. Carney and Smith noted in particular the difficulty no discovery would create in certain personal injury cases involving treating physician testimony. Judge Pullan opined that the tiered system signals proportionality and lends certainty and predictability. The committee discussed requests for extraordinary discovery and how that might look in a multi-tiered system. Mr. Wikstrom encouraged the committee to start at the highest level of abstraction and to consider the strengths and weaknesses of a multi-tier system, the problems it would answer, as well as the problems it would create, and to come to the next meeting prepared to discuss the merits of a tiered approach versus the committee's earlier proposal envisioning one set of simplified rules that would apply to all cases.

V. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m. The next meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 23, 2011, at the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Tab 2

Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Christine M. Durham
Utah Supreme Court
Chair, Utah Judicial Council

Daniel J. Becker
State Court Administrator
Ray H. Wahl
Deputy Court Administrator

MEMORANDUM

To: Civil Procedures Committee
From: Tim Shea
Date: February 16, 2011
Re: Garnishee liability

We have had a request from a legislator to impose a "meet and confer" requirement on the creditor before the creditor can try to impose liability on a garnishee. Because of its length, I have attached only an excerpt from Rule 64D. This language is borrowed from Rule 37.

Encl. URCP 64D Excerpt

Rule 64D. Writ of garnishment.

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(j) Liability of garnishee.

(j)(1) A garnishee who acts in accordance with this rule, the writ or an order of the court is released from liability, unless answers to interrogatories are successfully controverted.

(j)(2)(A) If the garnishee fails to comply with this rule, the writ or an order of the court, the court may order the garnishee to appear and show cause why the garnishee should not be ordered to pay such amounts as are just, including the value of the property or the balance of the judgment, whichever is less, and reasonable costs and attorney fees incurred by parties as a result of the garnishee's failure. If the garnishee shows that the steps taken to secure the property were reasonable, the court may excuse the garnishee's liability in whole or in part.

(j)(2)(B) The creditor must attach to the motion for an order to show cause a certification that the creditor has in good faith conferred or attempted to confer with the garnishee in an effort to settle the issue without court action.

(j)(3) No person is liable as garnishee by reason of having drawn, accepted, made or endorsed any negotiable instrument that is not in the possession or control of the garnishee at the time of service of the writ.

(j)(4) Any person indebted to the defendant may pay to the officer the amount of the debt or so much as is necessary to satisfy the writ, and the officer's receipt discharges the debtor for the amount paid.

(j)(5) A garnishee may deduct from the property any liquidated claim against the plaintiff or defendant.

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Tab 3

Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Christine M. Durham
Utah Supreme Court
Chair, Utah Judicial Council

Daniel J. Becker
State Court Administrator
Ray H. Wahl
Deputy Court Administrator

MEMORANDUM

To: Civil Procedures Committee
From: Tim Shea
Date: February 16, 2011
Re: Disqualification of judge

Apparently several motions to disqualify a judge have not been ruled upon because clerks are waiting for a request to submit for decision that will never come. The proposed amendment clarifies that there is no contest to this particular motion; it is either granted by the assigned judge or referred immediately to the presiding judge for decision.

Encl. URCP 63

Rule 63. Disability or disqualification of a judge.

(a) Substitute judge; Prior testimony. If the judge to whom an action has been assigned is unable to perform the duties required of the court under these rules, then any other judge of that district or any judge assigned pursuant to Judicial Council rule is authorized to perform those duties. The judge to whom the case is assigned may in the exercise of discretion rehear the evidence or some part of it.

(b) Disqualification.

(b)(1)(A) A party to any action or the party's attorney may file a motion to disqualify a judge. The motion shall be accompanied by a certificate that the motion is filed in good faith and shall be supported by an affidavit stating facts sufficient to show bias, prejudice or conflict of interest.

(b)(1)(B) The motion shall be filed after commencement of the action, but not later than 20 days after the last of the following:

(b)(1)(B)(i) assignment of the action or hearing to the judge;

(b)(1)(B)(ii) appearance of the party or the party's attorney; or

(b)(1)(B)(iii) the date on which the moving party learns or with the exercise of reasonable diligence should have learned of the grounds upon which the motion is based.

If the last event occurs fewer than 20 days prior to a hearing, the motion shall be filed as soon as practicable.

(b)(1)(C) Signing the motion or affidavit constitutes a certificate under Rule 11 and subjects the party or attorney to the procedures and sanctions of Rule 11. No party may file more than one motion to disqualify in an action.

(b)(2) The judge against whom the motion and affidavit are directed shall, without further hearing and without a response or a request to submit for decision, enter an order granting the motion or certifying the motion and affidavit to a reviewing judge. The judge shall take no further action in the case until the motion is decided. If the judge grants the motion, the order shall direct the presiding judge of the court or, if the court has no presiding judge, the presiding officer of the Judicial Council to assign another judge to the action or hearing. The presiding judge of the court, any judge of the district,

any judge of a court of like jurisdiction, or the presiding officer of the Judicial Council may serve as the reviewing judge.

(b)(3)(A) If the reviewing judge finds that the motion and affidavit are timely filed, filed in good faith and legally sufficient, the reviewing judge shall assign another judge to the action or hearing or request the presiding judge or the presiding officer of the Judicial Council to do so.

(b)(3)(B) In determining issues of fact or of law, the reviewing judge may consider any part of the record of the action and may request of the judge who is the subject of the motion and affidavit an affidavit responsive to questions posed by the reviewing judge.

(b)(3)(C) The reviewing judge may deny a motion not filed in a timely manner.

Tab 4

Administrative Office of the Courts

Chief Justice Christine M. Durham
Utah Supreme Court
Chair, Utah Judicial Council

Daniel J. Becker
State Court Administrator
Ray H. Wahl
Deputy Court Administrator

MEMORANDUM

To: Civil Procedures Committee
From: Tim Shea
Date: February 16, 2011
Re: Redrafted discovery rules

The amendments resulting from the comments have been drafted into the rules using standard interlineation. Most of the changes have been to Rule 26, including those made at the last meeting, but there are changes to some of the other rules as well.

The first draft of language describing multiple tiers for discovery is in a file titled “c” following Rule 26. Your workgroup of Lincoln Davies, Jonathan Hafen and Judge Pullan propose this language, but there remains some question about where to park it. There is concern about overburdening an already long Rule 26. Thus the question sent in an earlier e-mail about whether Rule 31 could be deleted to create space for it. If incorporated into Rule 26, it would best fit as a new paragraph (c). Newly renumbered paragraph (c)(8) on extraordinary discovery—part of the original proposal—would be a part of this new section wherever it lands. The changes in Rule 8 are also on this topic, but seem to fit better in that rule.

The committee should also discuss the request by the family law section for Rule 26A to permit deposition of experts and expert reports. Todd circulated a summary of his discussion with the executive committee by e-mail.

Rule 1. General provisions.

Scope of rules. These rules govern the procedure in the courts of the state of Utah in all actions of a civil nature, whether cognizable at law or in equity, and in all statutory proceedings, except as governed by other rules promulgated by this court or enacted by the Legislature and except as stated in Rule 81. They shall be liberally construed and applied to achieve the just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of every action. These rules govern all actions brought after they take effect and all further proceedings in actions then pending. If, in the opinion of the court, applying a rule in an action pending when the rule takes effect would not be feasible or would be unjust, the former procedure applies.

Advisory Committee Notes

A primary purpose of the 2010 amendments is to give effect to the long-standing but often overlooked directive in Rule 1 that the Rules of Civil Procedure should be construed and applied to achieve "the just, speedy and inexpensive determination of every action." The amendments serve this purpose by limiting parties to discovery that is proportional the stakes of the litigation, curbing excessive expert discovery, and requiring the early disclosure of documents, witnesses and evidence that a party intends to offer in its case-in-chief. The committee's purpose is to restore balance to the goals of Rule 1, so that a just resolutions are not achieved at the expense of speedy and inexpensive resolutions, and greater access to the justice system can be afforded to all members of society.

Rule 8. General rules of pleadings.

(a) Claims for relief. An original claim, counterclaim, cross-claim or third-party claim shall contain a simple, short and plain:

(a)(1) statement of facts showing that the party is entitled to relief;

(a)(2) statement of the legal theory on which the claim rests; and

(a)(3) demand for judgment for specified relief. Relief in the alternative or of several different types may be demanded.

A party who claims damages but does not plead an amount shall plead that their damages are such as to qualify for a specified tier defined by Rule 26. A party may not recover more than the maximum damages for a tier.

(b) Defenses; form of denials. A party shall state in simple, short and plain terms any defenses to each claim asserted and shall admit or deny the statements in the claim. A party without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of a statement shall so state, and this has the effect of a denial. Denials shall fairly meet the substance of the statements denied. A party may deny all of the statements in a claim by general denial. A party may specify the statement or part of a statement that is admitted and deny the rest. A party may specify the statement or part of a statement that is denied and admit the rest.

(c) Affirmative defenses. An affirmative defense shall contain a simple, short and plain:

(c)(1) statement of facts establishing the affirmative defense;

(c)(2) statement of the legal theory on which the defense rests; and

(c)(3) a demand for relief.

A party shall set forth affirmatively in a responsive pleading accord and satisfaction, arbitration and award, assumption of risk, contributory negligence, discharge in bankruptcy, duress, estoppel, failure of consideration, fraud, illegality, injury by fellow servant, laches, license, payment, release, res judicata, statute of frauds, statute of limitations, waiver, and any other matter constituting an avoidance or affirmative defense. If a party mistakenly designates a defense as a counterclaim or a counterclaim as a defense, the court, on terms, may treat the pleadings as if the defense or counterclaim had been properly designated.

(d) Effect of failure to deny. Statements in a pleading to which a responsive pleading is required, other than statements of the amount of damage, are admitted if not denied in the responsive pleading. Statements in a pleading to which no responsive pleading is required or permitted are deemed denied or avoided.

(e) Consistency. A party may state a claim or defense alternately or hypothetically, either in one count or defense or in separate counts or defenses. If statements are made in the alternative and one of them is sufficient, the pleading is not made insufficient by the insufficiency of an alternative statement. A party may state legal and equitable claims or legal and equitable defenses regardless of consistency.

(f) Construction of pleadings. All pleadings shall be construed to do substantial justice.

Advisory Committee Notes

The 2010 amendments remove from Rule 8 prior language requiring a statement of the party's "claim." Instead, the rule now requires a short and plain statement of both (1) "facts showing that the party is entitled to relief" and (2) "the legal theory on which the claim rests." The purpose of this amendment is twofold. First, the amendment clarifies that parties must give notice of both the facts and the law that support their claim. The amendment thus reconfirms longstanding case law that courts, on a Rule 12 motion, will "accept the plaintiff's description of facts alleged in the complaint to be true, but . . . need not accept extrinsic facts not pleaded nor . . . legal conclusions in contradiction of the pleaded facts." Allred v. Cook, 590 P.2d 318, 319 (Utah 1979). "[M]ere conclusory allegations in a pleading . . . are insufficient . . . ." Chapman v. Primary Children's Hosp., 784 P.2d 1181, 1186 (Utah 1989). Second, by clarifying that parties should plead facts, this amendment to Rule 8 incentivizes further and earlier disclosure of facts, consistent with the general approach of Utah's new "simplified rules" and other changes made by the 2010 amendments, including those to Rule 26's disclosure requirements. To facilitate access to justice, the committee intends that all pleadings—both complaints and defenses—provide more and earlier notice of the facts alleged with less reliance on discovery. However, by requiring parties to plead "facts," this amendment expressly does not resurrect any prior requirement of technical or "code" pleading. Nor does the amendment seek to import any heightened pleading requirement, including

interpretations of the United States Supreme Court's decisions in Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly, 550 U.S. 544 (2007), and Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 129 S. Ct. 1937 (2009), as mandating a heightened standard of "plausibility" pleading under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Rather, the longstanding "liberal" standard of notice pleading remains in effect in Utah. E.g., Canfield v. Layton City, 2005 UT 60, ¶ 14, 122 P.3d 622. Accord Adam N. Steinman, The Pleading Problem, 62 Stanford L. Rev. 1293 (2010).

Rule 16. Pretrial conferences.

(a) Pretrial conferences. The court, in its discretion or upon motion, may direct the attorneys and, when appropriate, the parties to appear for such purposes as:

(a)(1) expediting the disposition of the action;

(a)(2) establishing early and continuing control so that the case will not be protracted for lack of management;

(a)(3) discouraging wasteful pretrial activities;

(a)(4) improving the quality of the trial through more thorough preparation;

(a)(5) facilitating the settlement of the case;

(a)(6) considering all matters as may aid in the disposition of the case;

(a)(7) establishing the time to join other parties and to amend the pleadings;

(a)(8) establishing the time to file motions;

(a)(9) establishing the time to complete discovery;

(a)(10) extending fact discovery;

(a)(11) the date for pretrial and final pretrial conferences and trial;

(a)(12) provisions for preservation, disclosure or discovery of electronically stored information;

(a)(13) any agreements the parties reach for asserting claims of privilege or of protection as trial-preparation material after production; and

(a)(14) any other appropriate matters.

(b) Unless an order sets the trial date, any party may and the plaintiff shall, at the close of all discovery, certify to the court that the case is ready for trial. The court shall schedule the trial as soon as mutually convenient to the court and parties. The court shall notify parties of the trial date and of any final pretrial conference.

(c) Final pretrial conferences. The court, in its discretion or upon motion, may direct the attorneys and, when appropriate, the parties to appear for such purposes as settlement and trial management. The conference shall be held as close to the time of trial as reasonable under the circumstances.

(d) Sanctions. If a party or a party's attorney fails to obey an order, if a party or a party's attorney fails to attend a conference, if a party or a party's attorney is substantially unprepared to participate in a conference, or if a party or a party's attorney

fails to participate in good faith, the court, upon motion or its own initiative, may take any action authorized by Rule 37(b)(2).

Advisory Committee Notes

Rule 26. General provisions governing disclosure and discovery.

(a) Disclosure. This rule applies unless changed or supplemented by a rule governing disclosure and discovery in a practice area.

(a)(1) Initial disclosures. Except in cases exempt under paragraph (a)(2), a party shall, without waiting for a discovery request, provide to other parties:

(a)(1)(A) the name and, if known, the address and telephone number of:

(a)(1)(A)(i) each individual likely to have discoverable information supporting its claims or defenses, unless solely for impeachment, identifying the subjects of the information; and

(a)(1)(A)(ii) each fact witness the party may call in its case in chief and a summary of the expected testimony.

(a)(1)(B) a copy of all documents, data compilations, electronically stored information, and tangible things in the possession or control of the party that the party may offer in its case in chief, except charts, summaries and demonstrative exhibits, which must be disclosed in accordance with paragraph (a)(4)(C);

(a)(1)(C) a computation of any damages claimed and a copy of all discoverable documents or evidentiary material on which such computation is based, including materials about the nature and extent of injuries suffered;

(a)(1)(D) a copy of any agreement under which any person may be liable to satisfy part or all of a judgment or to indemnify or reimburse for payments made to satisfy the judgment; and

(a)(1)(E) a copy of all documents to which a party refers in its pleadings.

(a)(1)(F) The disclosures required by paragraph (a)(1) shall be made:

(a)(1)(F)(i) by the plaintiff within 14 days after service of the first answer to the complaint; and

(a)(1)(F)(ii) by the defendant within 28 days after the plaintiff's first disclosure or after that defendant's appearance, whichever is later.

(a)(2) Exemptions.

(a)(2)(A) Unless otherwise ordered by the court or agreed to by the parties, the requirements of paragraph (a)(1) do not apply to actions:

(a)(2)(A)(i) for judicial review of adjudicative proceedings or rule making proceedings of an administrative agency;

(a)(2)(A)(ii) governed by Rule 65B or Rule 65C;

(a)(2)(A)(iii) to enforce an arbitration award;

(a)(2)(A)(iv) for water rights general adjudication under Title 73, Chapter 4.

(a)(2)(B) In an exempt action, the matters subject to disclosure under paragraph (a)(1) are subject to discovery under paragraph (b).

(a)(3) Disclosure of expert testimony.

~~(a)(3)(A) A party shall, without waiting for a discovery request, provide to other parties a copy of a written report of any person who may be used at trial to present evidence under Rules 702, 703, or 705 of the Utah Rules of Evidence and who is retained or specially employed to provide expert testimony in the case or whose duties as an employee of the party regularly involve giving expert testimony. The report shall be signed by the expert and contain: a complete statement of all opinions the witness will express and the basis and reasons for them; the data or other information relied upon by the witness in forming them; any exhibits that will be used to summarize or support them; the qualifications of the expert, including a list of all publications authored within the preceding ten years; the compensation to be paid for the study and testimony; and a list of any other cases in which the expert has testified as an expert at trial or by deposition within the preceding four years. Such an expert may not testify in a party's case-in-chief concerning any matter not fairly disclosed in the report.~~

~~(a)(3)(B) If the expert witness is not required to provide a written report, the party shall disclose the subject matter on which the witness is expected to present evidence under Rule of Evidence 702, 703 or 705 and a summary of the facts and opinions to which the witness is expected to testify.~~

~~(a)(3)(C) Disclosure required by paragraph (a)(3) shall be made within 28 days after the expiration of fact discovery as provided by paragraph (c) or, if the evidence is intended solely to contradict evidence under paragraph (a)(3)(A), within 56 days after disclosure by the other party.~~

(a)(3)(A) Expert Testimony. A party shall, without waiting for a discovery request, provide to the other parties the following information regarding any person who may be

used at trial to present evidence under Rules 702, 703, or 705 of the Utah Rules of Evidence and who is retained or specially employed to provide expert testimony in the case or whose duties as an employee of the party regularly involve giving expert testimony: (i) the expert's name and qualifications, including a list of all publications authored within the preceding 10 years, and a list of any other cases in which the expert has testified as an expert at trial or by deposition within the preceding four years, (ii) a brief summary of the opinions to which the witness is expected to testify, (iii) all data and other information that will be relied upon by the witness in forming those opinions, and (iv) the compensation to be paid for the witnesses' study and testimony.

(a)(3)(B) Limits on Expert Discovery. Further discovery may be obtained from an expert witness either by deposition or by written report. A deposition shall not exceed four hours and the party taking the deposition shall pay the expert's reasonable hourly fees for attendance at the deposition. A report shall be signed by the expert and shall contain a complete statement of all opinions the expert will offer at trial and the basis and reasons for them. Such an expert may not testify in a party's case-in-chief concerning any matter not fairly disclosed in the report. The party offering the expert shall pay the costs for the report.

(a)(3)(C) Timing for Expert Discovery.

(a)(3)(C)(i) The party who bears the burden of proof on the issue for which expert testimony is offered shall provide the information required by paragraph (a)(3)(A) within seven days after the close of fact discovery. Within seven days thereafter, the party opposing the expert may serve notice electing either a deposition of the expert pursuant to paragraph (a)(3)(B) and Rule 30, or a written report pursuant to paragraph (a)(3)(B). The deposition shall occur, or the report shall be provided, within 28 days after the election is made. If no election is made, then no further discovery of the expert shall be permitted.

(a)(3)(C)(ii) The party who does not bear the burden of proof on the issue for which expert testimony is offered shall provide the information required by paragraph (a)(3)(A) within seven days after the later of (i) the date on which the election under paragraph (a)(3)(C)(i) is due, or (ii) receipt of the written report or the taking of the expert's deposition pursuant to paragraph (a)(3)(C)(i). Within seven days thereafter, the party

opposing the expert may serve notice electing either a deposition of the expert pursuant to paragraph (a)(3)(B) and Rule 30, or a written report pursuant to paragraph (a)(3)(B). The deposition shall occur, or the report shall be provided, within 28 days after the election is made. If no election is made, then no further discovery of the expert shall be permitted.

(a)(3)(C)(iii) In multiparty actions, all parties opposing the expert must agree on either a report or a deposition. If all parties opposing the expert do not agree, then further discovery of the expert may be obtained only by deposition pursuant to paragraph (a)(3)(B) and Rule 30.

(a)(3)(D) If a party intends to present evidence at trial under Rules 702, 703, or 705 of the Utah Rules of Evidence from any person other than an expert witness who is retained or specially employed to provide testimony in the case or a person whose duties as an employee of the party regularly involve giving expert testimony, that party must provide a written summary of the facts and opinions to which the witness is expected to testify in accordance with the deadlines set forth in paragraph (a)(3)(C). A deposition of such a witness may not exceed four hours and must be taken within 28 days after the expert witness is disclosed.

(a)(4) Pretrial disclosures. A party shall, without waiting for a discovery request, provide to other parties:

(a)(4)(A) the name and, if not previously provided, the address and telephone number of each witness, unless solely for impeachment, separately identifying witnesses the party will call and witnesses the party may call;

(a)(4)(B) the name of witnesses whose testimony is expected to be presented by transcript of a deposition and a copy of the transcript; and

(a)(4)(C) ~~identification~~ a copy of each exhibit, including charts, summaries ~~of other evidence~~ and demonstrative exhibits, unless solely for impeachment, separately identifying those which the party will offer and those which the party may offer.

(a)(4)(D) Disclosure required by paragraph (a)(4) shall be made at least 28 days before trial. At least 14 days before trial, a party shall serve and file objections and grounds for the objections to the use of a deposition and to the admissibility of exhibits.

Other than objections under Rules 402 and 403 of the Utah Rules of Evidence, objections not listed are waived unless excused by the court for good cause.

(b) Discovery scope.

(b)(1) In general. Parties may discover any matter, not privileged, which is relevant to the claim or defense of any party if the discovery satisfies the standards of proportionality set forth below.

(b)(2) Proportionality. Discovery and discovery requests are proportional if:

(b)(2)(A) the likely benefits of the proposed discovery outweigh the burden or expense;

(b)(2)(B) the discovery is consistent with the overall case management and will further the just, speedy and inexpensive determination of the case;

(b)(2)(C) the discovery is reasonable, considering the needs of the case, the amount in controversy, the complexity of the case, the parties' resources, the importance of the issues, and the importance of the discovery in resolving the issues;

(b)(2)(D) the discovery is not unreasonably cumulative or duplicative;

(b)(2)(E) the information cannot be obtained from another source that is more convenient, less burdensome or less expensive; and

(b)(2)(F) the party seeking discovery has not had sufficient opportunity to obtain the information by discovery or otherwise, taking into account the parties' relative access to the information.

(b)(3) Burden. The party seeking discovery has the burden of showing proportionality and relevance. To ensure proportionality, the court may enter orders under Rule 37.

(b)(4) Electronically stored information. A party claiming that electronically stored information is not reasonably accessible because of undue burden or cost shall describe the source of the electronically stored information, the nature and extent of the burden, the nature of the information not provided, and any other information that will enable other parties to evaluate the claim.

(b)(5) Trial preparation materials. A party may obtain otherwise discoverable documents and tangible things prepared in anticipation of litigation or for trial by or for another party or by or for that other party's representative (including the party's attorney,

consultant, surety, indemnitor, insurer, or agent) only upon a showing that the party seeking discovery has substantial need of the materials and that the party is unable without undue hardship to obtain substantially equivalent materials by other means. In ordering discovery of such materials, the court shall protect against disclosure of the mental impressions, conclusions, opinions, or legal theories of an attorney or other representative of a party.

(b)(6) Statement previously made about the action. A party may obtain without the showing required in paragraph (b)(4) a statement concerning the action or its subject matter previously made by that party. Upon request, a person not a party may obtain without the required showing a statement about the action or its subject matter previously made by that person. If the request is refused, the person may move for a court order under Rule 37. A statement previously made is (A) a written statement signed or approved by the person making it, or (B) a stenographic, mechanical, electrical, or other recording, or a transcription thereof, which is a substantially verbatim recital of an oral statement by the person making it and contemporaneously recorded.

(b)(7) Trial preparation; experts.

(b)(7)(A) Trial-preparation protection for draft reports or disclosures. Paragraph (b)(4) protects drafts of any report or disclosure required under paragraph (a)(3), regardless of the form in which the draft is recorded.

(b)(7)(B) Trial-preparation protection for communications between a party's attorney and expert witnesses. Paragraph (b)(4) protects communications between the party's attorney and any witness required to provide disclosures under paragraph (a)(3)(A), regardless of the form of the communications, except to the extent that the communications:

(b)(7)(B)(i) relate to compensation for the expert's study or testimony;

(b)(7)(B)(ii) identify facts or data that the party's attorney provided and that the expert considered in forming the opinions to be expressed; or

(b)(7)(B)(iii) identify assumptions that the party's attorney provided and that the expert relied on in forming the opinions to be expressed.

(b)(7)(C) Expert employed only for trial preparation. Ordinarily, a party may not, by interrogatories or otherwise, discover facts known or opinions held by an expert who

has been retained or specially employed by another party in anticipation of litigation or to prepare for trial and who is not expected to be called as a witness at trial. A party may do so only:

(b)(7)(C)(i) as provided in Rule 35(b); or

(b)(7)(C)(ii) on showing exceptional circumstances under which it is impracticable for the party to obtain facts or opinions on the same subject by other means.

(b)(8) Claims of privilege or protection of trial preparation materials.

(b)(8)(A) Information withheld. If a party withholds discoverable information by claiming that it is privileged or prepared in anticipation of litigation or for trial, the party shall make the claim expressly and shall describe the nature of the documents, communications, or things not produced in a manner that, without revealing the information itself, will enable other parties to evaluate the claim.

(b)(8)(B) Information produced. If a party produces information that the party claims is privileged or prepared in anticipation of litigation or for trial, the producing party may notify any receiving party of the claim and the basis for it. After being notified, a receiving party must promptly return, sequester, or destroy the specified information and any copies it has and may not use or disclose the information until the claim is resolved. A receiving party may promptly present the information to the court under seal for a determination of the claim. If the receiving party disclosed the information before being notified, it must take reasonable steps to retrieve it. The producing party must preserve the information until the claim is resolved.

(c) Sequence and timing of discovery; tiers; limits on standard discovery; extraordinary discovery.

~~(c)(1) Standard discovery. Standard discovery as set by the limits established in Rules 30, 33, 34 and 36 shall be completed within 150 days after the defendant's first disclosure is made. Methods of discovery may be used in any sequence, and the fact that a party is conducting discovery shall not delay any other party's discovery. Except for cases exempt under paragraph (a)(2), a party may not seek discovery from any source before that party's initial disclosure obligations are satisfied.~~

See separate file for new paragraph (c)

(c)(8) Extraordinary discovery. To obtain discovery beyond the limits established in Paragraph (c)(1), a party shall file:

(c)(8)(A) before the close of standard discovery and after reaching the limits of standard discovery imposed by these rules, a stipulation of extraordinary discovery and a statement signed by the parties and attorneys that extraordinary discovery is necessary and proportional under paragraph (b)(1) and that each party has reviewed and approved a discovery budget; or

(c)(8)(B) before the close of the standard discovery and after reaching the limits of standard discovery imposed by these rules, a motion for extraordinary discovery and a statement signed by the party and attorney that the extraordinary discovery is necessary and proportional under paragraph (b)(1) and that the party has reviewed and approved a discovery budget.

(d) Requirements for disclosure or response; disclosure or response by an organization; failure to disclose; initial and supplemental disclosures and responses.

(d)(1) A party shall make disclosures and responses to discovery based on the information then known or reasonably available to the party.

(d)(2) If the party providing disclosure or responding to discovery is a corporation, partnership, association, or governmental agency, the party shall act through one or more officers, directors, managing agents, or other persons.

(d)(3) A party is not excused from making disclosures or responses because the party has not completed investigating the case or because the party challenges the sufficiency of another party's disclosures or responses or because another party has not made disclosures or responses.

(d)(4) If a party fails to disclose or to timely supplement a disclosure or response to discovery, that party may not use the undisclosed witness, document or material at any hearing or trial unless the failure is harmless or the party shows good cause for the failure.

(d)(5) If a party learns that a disclosure or response is incomplete or incorrect in some important way, the party must timely provide the additional or correct information if it has not been made known to the other parties. The supplemental disclosure or

response must state why the additional or correct information was not previously provided.

(e) Signing discovery requests, responses, and objections. Every disclosure, request for discovery, response to a request for discovery and objection to a request for discovery shall be in writing and signed by at least one attorney of record or by the party if the party is not represented. The signature of the attorney or party is a certification under Rule 11. If a request or response is not signed, the receiving party does not need to take any action with respect to it. If a certification is made in violation of the rule, the court, upon motion or upon its own initiative, may take any action authorized by Rule 11 or Rule 37(b)(2).

(f) Filing. Except as required by these rules or ordered by the court, a party shall not file with the court a disclosure, a request for discovery or a response to a request for discovery, but shall file only the certificate of service stating that the disclosure, request for discovery or response has been served on the other parties and the date of service.

Advisory Committee Notes

Disclosure Requirements and Timing. Rule 26(a)(1). The ~~2010~~ 2011 amendments seek to reduce discovery costs by requiring each party to produce, at an early stage in the case and without a discovery request, all of the documents and physical evidence the party may offer in its case-in-chief and the names of witnesses the party may call in its case-in-chief with a description of their expected testimony. In this respect, the amendments build on the initial disclosure requirements of the prior rules. In addition to the disclosures required by the prior version of Rule 26(a)(1), a party must disclose each fact witness the party may call in its case-in-chief and a summary of the witness's expected testimony, a copy of all documents the party may offer in its case-in-chief, and all documents to which a party refers in its pleadings. The duty to provide this information is a continuing one, and disclosures must be supplemented as new evidence and witnesses become known. The penalty for failing to make timely disclosures is that the evidence may not be used in the party's case-in-chief.

The amendments also change the time for making these required disclosures. Because the plaintiff controls when it brings the action, plaintiffs must make their

disclosures within 14 days after service of the first answer. A defendant is required to make its disclosures within 28 days after the plaintiff's first disclosure or after that defendant's appearance, whichever is later. The purpose of early disclosure is to have all parties present the evidence they expect to use to prove their claims or defenses, thereby giving the opposing party the ability to better evaluate the case and determine what additional discovery is necessary.

Finally, the ~~2010~~ 2011amendments eliminate two categories of actions that previously were exempt from the mandatory disclosure requirements. Specifically, the amendments eliminate the prior exemption for contract actions in which the amount claimed is $20,000 or less, and actions in which any party is proceeding pro se. In the committee's view, these types of actions will benefit from the early disclosure requirements and the overall reduced cost of discovery.

~~**Expert Disclosures and Timing. Rule 26(a)(3).** Expert discovery has become an ever-increasing component of discovery cost. The prior rules sought to eliminate some of these costs by requiring the written disclosure of the expert's opinions and other background information. However, because the expert was not required to sign these disclosures, and because experts often were allowed to deviate from the opinions disclosed, attorneys typically would take the expert's deposition to ensure the expert would not offer any "surprise" testimony at trial, thereby increasing rather than decreasing the overall cost. The 2010 amendments seek to remedy this by requiring more comprehensive written disclosures, making clear that experts will be held to these disclosures, and eliminating expert depositions. In addition to the materials required under the prior rules, the amended rules make clear that an expert must provide a complete statement of all opinions the witness will express and the basis and reasons for them, as well as the data or other information upon which the expert relies in forming the opinions, and exhibits that will be used to summarize or support those opinions. They further provide that an expert may not testify in a party's case-in-chief concerning any matter not "fairly disclosed" in the report. The intent is not to require a verbatim transcript of exactly what the expert will say at trial; instead, the expert must fairly disclose the substance of each opinion the expert will offer.~~

~~Formal expert reports as described above are required only for experts who are retained or specially employed to provide expert testimony, or whose duties as an employee of the party regularly involve giving expert testimony. For other types of experts, such as treating physicians, police officers, or accident investigators, the party who intends to offer that expert must disclose the subject matter on which the expert is expected to present expert testimony and a summary of the facts and opinions to which the witness is expected to testify.~~

~~Expert disclosures must be provided within 28 days after expiration of fact discovery, unless the expert is intended solely to contradict evidence presented by another party's expert, in which case it must be disclosed within 56 days after disclosure by the other party.~~

Expert Disclosures and Timing. Rule 26(a)(3). Expert discovery has become an ever-increasing component of discovery cost. The prior rules sought to eliminate some of these costs by requiring the written disclosure of the expert's opinions and other background information. However, because the expert was not required to sign these disclosures, and because experts often were allowed to deviate from the opinions disclosed, attorneys typically would take the expert's deposition to ensure the expert would not offer "surprise" testimony at trial, thereby increasing rather than decreasing the overall cost. The amendments seek to remedy this and other costs associated with expert discovery by, among other things, allowing a deposition of the expert or a written report, but not both; in the case of written reports, requiring more comprehensive disclosures, signed by the expert, and making clear that experts will be held to these disclosures, all with the goal of making reports a reliable substitute for depositions; and incorporating a rule that protects from discovery most communications between an attorney and retained expert. The amendments also address the issue of the "non-retained" expert. Discovery of expert opinions and testimony is automatic under Rule 26(a)(3) and parties are not required to serve interrogatories or use other discovery devices to obtain this information.

Disclosures of expert testimony are made in sequence, with the party who bears the burden of proof on the issue for which expert testimony will be offered going first. Within seven days after the close of fact discovery, that party must disclose: (i) the expert's

curriculum vitae identifying the expert's qualifications, publications, and prior testimony; (ii) compensation information; (iii) a brief summary of the opinions the expert will offer – not a lengthy or exhaustive list, but merely notice of the issues the expert will address at trial; and (iv) a complete copy of the expert's file for the case. The file should include all of the facts and data that the expert has relied upon in forming the expert's opinions. If the expert has prepared summaries of data, charts, tables, or similar materials, they should be included. If the expert has used software programs to make calculations or otherwise summarize or organize data, that information should be provided in native form so it can be analyzed and understood. If the expert is relying on depositions or materials produced in discovery, then a list of the specific materials relied upon is sufficient. The committee recognizes that experts frequently will prepare demonstrative exhibits or other aids to illustrate the expert's testimony at trial, and the costs for preparing these materials can be substantial. For that reason, these types of demonstrative aids should be disclosed later, as part of the Rule 26(a)(4) pretrial disclosures when trial appears more likely.

Within seven days after this disclosure, the party opposing the expert may elect either a deposition or a written report from the expert. A deposition is limited to four hours and the party taking it must pay the expert's hourly fee for attending the deposition. If a party elects a written report, the expert must provide a signed report containing a complete statement of all opinions the expert will express and the basis and reasons for them. The expert may not testify in a party's case in chief concerning any matter not "fairly disclosed" in the report. The intent is not to require a verbatim transcript of exactly what the expert will say at trial; instead the expert must fairly disclose the substance of and basis for each opinion the expert will offer. The report or deposition must be completed within 28 days after the election is made. After this, the party who does not bear the burden of proof on the issue for which expert testimony is offered must make its corresponding disclosures and the opposing party may then elect either a deposition or a written report. Under the deadlines contained in the rules, expert discovery should take less than three months to complete. However, as with the other discovery rules, these deadlines can be altered by stipulation of the parties or order of the court.

The amendments also address the issue of testimony from experts other than those who are retained or specially employed to provide expert testimony, or whose duties as an employee regularly involve giving expert testimony. For these types of experts, such as treating physicians, police officers, or accident investigators, the party who intends to offer that expert must disclose the subject matter on which the expert is expected to testify and a summary of the facts and opinions to which the witness is expected to testify. Because a party who expects to offer such testimony cannot compel such a witness to prepare a written report, further discovery must be done by deposition, subject to the same limitations as other expert depositions.

Finally, the amendments include a new Rule 26(b)(7) that protects from discovery draft expert reports and, with limited exception, communications between an attorney and an expert. These changes are modeled after the recent changes to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and are intended to address the unnecessary and costly procedures that often were employed in order to protect such information from discovery, and to reduce "satellite litigation" over such issues.

Scope of Discovery—Proportionality. Rule 26(b). Proportionality is the principle governing the scope of discovery. Simply stated, it means that the cost of discovery should be proportional to what is at stake in the litigation.

In the past, the scope of discovery was governed by "relevance" or the "likelihood to lead to discovery of admissible evidence." These broad standards may have secured just results by allowing a party to discover all facts relevant to the litigation. However, they did little to advance two equally important objectives of the rules of civil procedure—the speedy and inexpensive resolution of every action. Accordingly, the former standards governing the scope of discovery have been replaced with the proportionality standards in subpart (b)(1).

The concept of proportionality is not new. The prior rule permitted the Court to limit discovery methods if it determined that "the discovery was unduly burdensome or expensive, taking into account the needs of the case, the amount in controversy, limitations on the parties' resources, and the importance of the issues at stake in the litigation." The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure contains a similar provision. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(2)(C). This method of limiting discovery, however, was rarely invoked

either under the Utah or federal rules. But because it embodies the same basic principles as the proportionality standard we now adopt, cases applying Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(2)(C) may provide helpful guidance to lawyers and judges.

Under the prior rule and the federal rule, the party objecting to the discovery request had the burden of proving that a discovery request was not proportional. The new rule changes the burden of proof. Today, the party seeking discovery beyond the scope of "standard" discovery has the burden of showing that the request is "relevant to the claim or defense of any party" and that the request satisfies the standards of proportionality. The trial court has broad discretion in deciding whether a discovery request is proportional and the standards of proportionality in subpart (b)(1) are intended to guide the exercise of that discretion. Over time, the proper application of these standards will be defined by trial and appellate courts.

Standard and Extraordinary Discovery. Rule 26(c). As a counterpart to requiring more detailed disclosures under Rule 26(a), the ~~2010~~ 2011 amendments place new limitations on additional discovery the parties may conduct. Because the committee expects the enhanced disclosure requirements will automatically permit each party to learn the witnesses and evidence the opposing side will offer in its case-in-chief, additional discovery should serve the more limited function of permitting parties to find witnesses, documents, and other evidentiary materials that are harmful, rather than helpful, to the opponent's case.

Rule 26(c) provides for limited, "standard" discovery that is presumed to be proportional to the amount and issues in controversy in the action, which the parties may conduct as a matter of right. Standard discovery is limited. Each party may take up to 16 hours of depositions. No deposition of a party may exceed seven hours, and no deposition of a non-party witness may exceed four hours. The number of interrogatories is limited to 15; the number of document requests is limited to 25; and the number of requests for admission is limited to 25. The time for standard discovery is limited to 150 days, after which the case is presumed to be ready for trial. The committee determined these limitations based on the observation that the majority of cases filed in the Utah State Courts involve disputes that are relatively modest in magnitude and lack significant factual complexity. Accordingly, the ~~2010~~ 2011 amendments provide an

opportunity for standard discovery that the committee believes should be sufficient for the typical state court case.

Despite the expectation that standard discovery should be adequate in the typical case, the ~~2010~~ 2011 amendments contemplate there will be cases for which standard discovery is not sufficient or appropriate. In such cases, parties may conduct additional discovery that is shown to be consistent with the principle of proportionality. There are two ways to obtain such additional discovery. The first is by stipulation. If the parties can agree additional discovery is necessary, they may stipulate to as much additional discovery as they desire, provided they stipulate the additional discovery is proportional to what is at stake in the litigation and each party certifies that it has reviewed and approved a budget for additional discovery. The certification must confirm that the actual party in question, and not merely counsel, has reviewed and approved the budget. If these conditions are met, the Court will not second-guess the parties and their counsel and must approve the stipulation.

The second method to obtain additional discovery is by motion. The committee recognizes there will be cases in which additional discovery is appropriate, but the parties cannot agree to the scope of such additional discovery. These would include, among other categories, large and factually complex cases and cases in which there is a significant disparity in the parties' access to information, such that one party legitimately has a greater need than the other party for additional discovery in order to prepare properly for trial. To prevent a party from taking advantage of this situation, the ~~2010~~ 2011 amendments allow any party to move the Court for additional discovery. The party making such a motion must demonstrate that the additional discovery is proportional and certify that the party has reviewed and approved a discovery budget. The burden to show the need for additional discovery, and to demonstrate proportionality, always falls on the party seeking additional discovery. However, cases in which such additional discovery is appropriate do exist, and it is important for Courts to recognize they can and should permit additional discovery in appropriate cases, commensurate with the complexity and magnitude of the dispute.

Protective Order Language Moved to Rule 37. The ~~2010~~ 2011 amendments delete in its entirety the prior language of Rule 26(c) governing motions for protective

orders. The substance of that language is now found in Rule 37. The committee determined it was preferable to cover all discovery motions through a single rule, rather than through two separate rules. Accordingly, Rule 37 now governs all discovery motions and orders, including protective orders as well as orders compelling discovery or imposing sanctions.

Consequences of Failure to Disclose. Rule 26(d). If a party fails to disclose or to supplement timely its discovery responses, that party cannot use the undisclosed witness, document, or material at any hearing or trial, absent proof that non-disclosure was harmless or justified by good cause. More complete disclosures increase the likelihood that the case will be resolved justly, speedily, and inexpensively. Not being able to use evidence that a party fails properly to disclose provides a powerful incentive to make complete disclosures. This is true only if trial courts hold parties to this standard. Accordingly, although a trial court retains discretion to determine how properly to address this issue in a given case, the usual and expected result should be exclusion of the evidence.

(c)(1) Sequence and timing of discovery. Methods of discovery may be used in any sequence, and the fact that a party is conducting discovery shall not delay any other party's discovery. Except for cases exempt under paragraph (a)(2), a party may not seek discovery from any source before that party's initial disclosure obligations are satisfied.

(c)(2) Definition of tiers for standard discovery. Actions claiming $50,000 or less in damages are permitted standard discovery as described for Tier 1. Actions claiming more than $50,000 and not more than $300,000 in damages and actions claiming equitable relief are permitted standard discovery as described for Tier 2. Actions claiming more than $300,000 in damages are permitted standard discovery as described for Tier 3.

(c)(3) Definition of damages. For purposes of determining standard discovery, damages includes the total economic and noneconomic damages in all claims for relief, whether an original claim, counterclaim, cross-claim or third-party claim, including compulsory and permissive counterclaims, but not including punitive damages.

(c)(4) If a party claims additional damages in an amended pleading, standard discovery will be determined by the amended pleadings. If parties qualify for extraordinary discovery, whether by stipulation or motion, the parties may not thereby claim or be exposed to liability for additional damages.

(c)(5) Tier 1. Standard discovery for cases in Tier 1 shall be completed within 150 days after the defendant's first disclosure is made. During standard discovery:

(c)(5)(A) each side (plaintiffs collectively, defendants collectively, and third-party defendants collectively) is limited to 5 hours of deposition by oral questioning;

(c)(5)(B) any party may serve upon any other party up to 5 written interrogatories, including all discrete subparts;

(c)(5)(C) any party may serve upon any other party up to 5 requests for production of distinct documents and things or categories of documents and things and for entry upon land for inspection and other purposes; and

(c)(5)(D) any party may serve upon any other party up to 5 requests for admission of the truth of a matter.

(c)(6) Tier 2. Standard discovery for cases in Tier 2 shall be completed within 180 days after the defendant's first disclosure is made. During standard discovery:

(c)(6)(A) each side (plaintiffs collectively, defendants collectively, and third-party defendants collectively) is limited to 15 hours of deposition by oral questioning. Oral questioning of a nonparty shall not exceed 5 hours, and oral questioning of a party shall not exceed 7 hours;

(c)(6)(B) any party may serve upon any other party up to 10 written interrogatories, including all discrete subparts;

(c)(7)(C) any party may serve upon any other party up to 10 requests for production of distinct documents and things or categories of documents and things and for entry upon land for inspection and other purposes; and

(c)(6)(D) any party may serve upon any other party up to 10 requests for admission of the truth of a matter.

(c)(7) Tier 3. Standard discovery for cases in Tier 3 shall be completed within 210 days after the defendant's first disclosure is made. During standard discovery:

(c)(7)(A) each side (plaintiffs collectively, defendants collectively, and third-party defendants collectively) is limited to 30 hours of deposition by oral questioning. Oral questioning of a nonparty shall not exceed 5 hours, and oral questioning of a party shall not exceed 7 hours;

(c)(7)(B) any party may serve upon any other party up to 20 written interrogatories, including all discrete subparts;

(c)(7)(C) any party may serve upon any other party up to 20 requests for production of distinct documents and things or categories of documents and things and for entry upon land for inspection and other purposes; and

(c)(7)(D) any party may serve upon any other party up to 20 requests for admission of the truth of a matter.

(c)(8) Extraordinary discovery. To obtain discovery beyond standard discovery, a party shall file:

(c)(8)(A) before the close of standard discovery and after reaching the limits of standard discovery imposed by these rules, a stipulation of extraordinary discovery and a statement signed by the parties and attorneys that extraordinary discovery is

necessary and proportional under paragraph (b)(1) and that each party has reviewed and approved a discovery budget; or

(c)(8)(B) before the close of the standard discovery and after reaching the limits of standard discovery imposed by these rules, a motion for extraordinary discovery and a statement signed by the party and attorney that the extraordinary discovery is necessary and proportional under paragraph (b)(1) and that the party has reviewed and approved a discovery budget. Extraordinary discovery approved upon motion shall not exceed standard discovery of the next higher tier.

Proposed Rule 26A was developed by the Family Law Section of the Utah State Bar. It represents the type of discovery or disclosure rule that the advisory committee anticipated when drafting proposed Rule 26(a).

Rule 26A. Disclosure and discovery in domestic relations actions.

(a) Scope. This rule applies to the following domestic relations actions~~, including:~~ divorce~~,~~; temporary separation~~,~~; separate maintenance~~,~~; parentage; custody; child support; and modification. This rule does not apply to adoptions, enforcement of prior orders, cohabitant abuse protective orders, child protective orders, ~~and~~ civil stalking injunctions, or grandparent visitation.

(b) Time for disclosure. ~~Without waiting for a discovery request, petitioner~~ In addition to the disclosures required in Rule 26, in all domestic relations actions, ~~shall disclose to respondent~~ the documents required in this rule ~~within 40 days after service of the petition unless respondent defaults or consents to entry of the decree. The respondent shall disclose to petitioner the documents required in this rule within 40 days after respondent's answer is due~~ shall be disclosed by the petitioner within 14 days after service of the first answer to the complaint and by the respondent within 28 days after the petitioner's first disclosure or 28 days after that respondent's appearance, whichever is later.

(c) Financial Declaration. Each party shall disclose to all other parties a fully completed court-approved Financial Declaration and attachments. Each party shall attach to the Financial Declaration the following:

(c)(1) For every item and amount listed in the Financial Declaration, excluding monthly expenses, the producing party shall attach copies of statements verifying the amounts listed on the Financial Declaration that are reasonably available to the party.

(c)(2) For the two tax years before the petition was filed, complete federal and state income tax returns, including Form W-2 and supporting tax schedules and attachments, filed by or on behalf of that party or by or on behalf of any entity in which the party has a majority or controlling interest, including, but not limited to, Form 1099 and Form K-1 with respect to that party.

(c)(3) Pay stubs and other evidence of all earned and un-earned income for the 12 months before the petition was filed.

(c)(4) All loan applications and financial statements prepared or used by the party within the 12 months before the petition was filed.

(c)(5) Documents verifying the value of all real estate in which the party has an interest, including, but not limited to, the most recent appraisal, tax valuation and refinance documents.

(c)(6) All statements for the 3 months before the petition was filed for all financial accounts, including, but not limited to checking, savings, money market funds, certificates of deposit, brokerage, investment, retirement, regardless of whether the account has been closed including those held in that party's name, jointly with another person or entity, or as a trustee or guardian, or in someone else's name on that party's behalf.

(c)(7) If the foregoing documents are not reasonably available or are in the possession of the other party, the party disclosing the Financial Declaration shall estimate the amounts entered on the Financial Declaration, the basis for the estimation and an explanation why the documents are not available.

(d) Certificate of Service. Each party shall file a Certificate of Service with the court certifying that he or she has provided the Financial Declaration and attachments to the other party in compliance with this rule.

(e) Exempted agencies. Agencies of the State of Utah are not subject to these disclosure requirements.

(f) Sanctions. Failure to fully disclose all assets and income in the Financial Declaration and attachments may subject the non-disclosing party to sanctions under Rule 37 including an award of non-disclosed assets to the other party, attorney's fees or other sanctions deemed appropriate by the court.

(g) Failure of a party to comply with this rule does not preclude any other party from obtaining a default judgment, proceeding with the case, or seeking other relief from the court.

(h) Notice of the requirements of this rule shall be served on the Respondent and all joined parties with the initial petition.

(j) Depositions. In addition to depositions as provided in Rule 30, and subject to the provisions of Rule 30, a party in a domestic relations action may depose custody

evaluators and financial experts. A deposition of a custody evaluator or financial expert shall not exceed four hours and shall not be included in the 16-hour limit on depositions in Rule 30(d).

Rule 29. Stipulations regarding disclosure and discovery procedure.

The parties may modify these rules for disclosure and discovery by filing, before the close of standard discovery, a stipulated notice of extraordinary discovery and a statement signed by the parties and lawyers that the extraordinary discovery is necessary and proportional under Rule 26(b)(1) and that each party has reviewed and approved a discovery budget. Stipulations extending the time for or limits of disclosure or discovery require court approval if the extension would interfere with a court order for completion of discovery or with the date of a hearing or trial.

Rule 30. Depositions upon oral questions.

(a) When depositions may be taken; when leave required~~; no deposition of expert witnesses~~. A party may depose a party or witness by oral questions. A witness may not be deposed more than once in standard discovery. An expert who has prepared a report disclosed under Rule 26(a)(3)(B) may not be deposed.

(b) Notice of deposition; general requirements; special notice; non-stenographic recording; production of documents and things; deposition of organization; deposition by telephone.

(b)(1) The party deposing a witness shall give reasonable notice in writing to every other party. The notice shall state the date, time and place for the deposition and the name and address of each witness. If the name of a witness is not known, the notice shall describe the witness sufficiently to identify the person or state the class or group to which the person belongs. The notice shall designate any documents and tangible things to be produced by a witness. The notice shall designate the officer who will conduct the deposition.

(b)(2) The notice shall designate the method by which the deposition will be recorded. With prior notice to the officer, witness and other parties, any party may designate a recording method in addition to the method designated in the notice. Depositions may be recorded by sound, sound-and-visual, or stenographic means, and the party designating the recording method shall bear the cost of the recording. The appearance or demeanor of witnesses or attorneys shall not be distorted through recording techniques.

(b)(3) A deposition shall be conducted before an officer appointed or designated under Rule 28 and shall begin with a statement on the record by the officer that includes (A) the officer's name and business address; (B) the date, time and place of the deposition; (C) the name of the witness; (D) the administration of the oath or affirmation to the witness; and (E) an identification of all persons present. If the deposition is recorded other than stenographically, the officer shall repeat items (A) through (C) at the beginning of each unit of the recording medium. At the end of the deposition, the officer shall state on the record that the deposition is complete and shall state any stipulations.

(b)(4) The notice to a party witness may be accompanied by a request under Rule 34 for the production of documents and tangible things at the deposition. The procedure of Rule 34 shall apply to the request. The attendance of a nonparty witness may be compelled by subpoena under Rule 45. Documents and tangible things to be produced shall be stated in the subpoena.

(b)(5) A deposition may be taken by remote electronic means. A deposition taken by remote electronic means is considered to be taken at the place where the witness answers questions.

(b)(6) A party may name as the witness a corporation, a partnership, an association, or a governmental agency, describe with reasonable particularity the matters on which questioning is requested, and direct the organization to designate one or more officers, directors, managing agents, or other persons to testify on its behalf. The organization shall state, for each person designated, the matters on which the person will testify. A subpoena shall advise a nonparty organization of its duty to make such a designation.

(c) Examination and cross-examination; objections.

(c)(1) Questioning of witnesses may proceed as permitted at the trial under the Utah Rules of Evidence, except Rules 103 and 615.

(c)(2) All objections shall be recorded, but the questioning shall proceed, and the testimony taken subject to the objections. Any objection shall be stated concisely and in a non-argumentative and non-suggestive manner. A person may instruct a witness not to answer only to preserve a privilege, to enforce a limitation on evidence directed by the court, or to present a motion for a protective order under Rule 37. Upon demand of the objecting party or witness, the deposition shall be suspended for the time necessary to make a motion. The party taking the deposition may complete or adjourn the deposition before moving for an order to compel discovery under Rule 37.

~~(d) Limits. During standard discovery, each side (plaintiffs collectively, defendants collectively, and third-party defendants collectively) is limited to 16 hours of deposition by oral questioning. Oral questioning of a nonparty shall not exceed four hours, and oral questioning of a party shall not exceed seven hours.~~ (Renumber remaining paragraphs.)

(e) Submission to witness; changes; signing. Within 28 days after being notified by the officer that the transcript or recording is available, a witness may sign a statement of changes to the form or substance of the transcript or recording and the reasons for the changes. The officer shall append any changes timely made by the witness.

(f) Record of deposition; certification and delivery by officer; exhibits; copies.

(f)(1) The officer shall record the deposition or direct another person present to record the deposition. The officer shall sign a certificate, to accompany the record, that the witness was under oath or affirmation and that the record is a true record of the deposition. The officer shall keep a copy of the record. The officer shall securely seal the record endorsed with the title of the action and marked "Deposition of (name). Do not open." and shall promptly send the sealed record to the attorney or the party who designated the recording method. An attorney or party receiving the record shall store it under conditions that will protect it against loss, destruction, tampering, or deterioration.

(f)(2) Every party may inspect and copy documents and things produced for inspection and must have a fair opportunity to compare copies and originals. Upon the request of a party, documents and things produced for inspection shall be marked for identification and added to the record. If the witness wants to retain the originals, that person shall offer the originals to be copied, marked for identification and added to the record.

(f)(3) Upon payment of reasonable charges, the officer shall furnish a copy of the record to any party or to the witness. An official transcript of a recording made by non-stenographic means shall be prepared under Utah Rule of Appellate Procedure 11(e).

(g) Failure to attend or to serve subpoena; expenses. If the party giving the notice of a deposition fails to attend or fails to serve a subpoena upon a witness who fails to attend, and another party attends in person or by attorney, the court may order the party giving the notice to pay to the other party the reasonable costs, expenses and attorney fees incurred.

(h) Deposition in action pending in another state. Any party to an action in another state may take the deposition of any person within this state in the same manner and subject to the same conditions and limitations as if such action were pending in this state. Notice of the deposition shall be filed with the clerk of the court of the county in

which the person whose deposition is to be taken resides or is to be served. Matters required to be submitted to the court shall be submitted to the court in the county where the deposition is being taken.

Rule 31. Depositions upon written questions.

(a) A party may depose a party or witness by written questions. Rules 30 and 45 apply to depositions upon written questions, except insofar as by their nature they are clearly inapplicable.

(b) A party taking a deposition using written questions shall serve on the parties a notice which includes the name or description and address of the deponent, the name or descriptive title of the officer before whom the deposition will be taken, and the questions to be asked.

(c) Within 14 days after the questions are served, a party may serve cross questions. Within 7 days after being served with cross questions, a party may serve redirect questions. Within 7 days after being served with redirect questions, a party may serve re-cross questions.

(d) A copy of the notice and copies of all questions served shall be delivered by the party taking the deposition to the designated officer who shall proceed promptly to ask the questions and prepare a record of the responses.

(e) During standard discovery, a deposition by written questioning shall not cumulatively exceed 15 questions, including discrete subparts, by the plaintiffs collectively, by the defendants collectively or by third-party defendants collectively.

Rule 33. Interrogatories to parties.

~~(a) Availability; procedures for use. During standard discovery, any party may serve upon any other party up to 15 written interrogatories, including all discrete subparts.~~ (Renumber remaining paragraphs.)

(b) Answers and objections. The responding party shall serve a written response within 28 days after service of the interrogatories. The responding party shall restate the interrogatory before responding to it. Each interrogatory shall be answered separately and fully in writing under oath or affirmation, unless it is objected to. If an interrogatory is objected to, the party shall state the reasons for the objection. Any reason not stated is waived unless excused by the court for good cause. An interrogatory is not objectionable merely because an answer involves an opinion or argument that relates to fact or the application of law to fact. The party shall answer any part of an interrogatory that is not objectionable.

(c) Scope; use at trial. Interrogatories may relate to any discoverable matter. Answers may be used as permitted by the Rules of Evidence.

(d) Option to produce business records. If the answer to an interrogatory may be found by inspecting the answering party's business records, including electronically stored information, and the burden of finding the answer is substantially the same for both parties, the answering party may identify the records from which the answer may be found. The answering party must give the asking party reasonable opportunity to inspect the records and to make copies, compilations, or summaries. The answering party must identify the records in sufficient detail to permit the asking party to locate and to identify them as readily as the answering party.

Rule 34. Production of documents and things and entry upon land for inspection and other purposes.

(a) Scope.

(a)(1) Any party may serve on any other party a request to produce and permit the requesting party to inspect, copy, test or sample any designated discoverable documents, electronically stored information or tangible things (including writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, sound recordings, images, and other data or data compilations stored in any medium from which information can be obtained, translated, if necessary, by the respondent into reasonably usable form) in the possession or control of the responding party .

(a)(2) Any party may serve on any other party a request to permit entry upon designated property in the possession or control of the responding party for the purpose of inspecting, measuring, surveying, photographing, testing, or sampling the property or any designated discoverable object or operation on the property.

(b) Procedure and limitations.

(b)(1) The request shall identify the items to be inspected by individual item or by category, and describe each item and category with reasonable particularity. ~~During standard discovery, the request shall not cumulatively include more than 25 distinct items or categories of items.~~ The request shall specify a reasonable date, time, place, and manner of making the inspection and performing the related acts. The request may specify the form or forms in which electronically stored information is to be produced.

(b)(2) The responding party shall serve a written response within 28 days after service of the request. The responding party shall restate the request before responding to it. The response shall state, with respect to each item or category, that inspection and related acts will be permitted as requested, or that the request is objected to. If the party objects to a request, the party must state the reasons for the objection. Any reason not stated is waived unless excused by the court for good cause. The party shall identify and permit inspection of any part of a request that is not objectionable. If the party objects to the requested form or forms for producing electronically stored information -- or if no form was specified in the request -- the responding party must state the form or forms it intends to use.

(c) Form of documents and electronically stored information.

(c)(1) A party who produces documents for inspection shall produce them as they are kept in the usual course of business or shall organize and label them to correspond with the categories in the request.

(c)(2) If a request does not specify the form or forms for producing electronically stored information, a responding party must produce the information in a form or forms in which it is ordinarily maintained or in a form or forms that are reasonably usable.

(c)(3) A party need not produce the same electronically stored information in more than one form.

Rule 35. Physical and mental examination of persons.

(a) Order for examination. When the mental or physical condition or attribute of a party or of a person in the custody or control of a party is in controversy, the court may order the party to submit to a physical or mental examination by a suitably licensed or certified examiner or to produce for examination the person in the party's custody or control. The order may be made only on motion for good cause shown. All papers related to the motion and notice of any hearing shall be served on a nonparty to be examined. The order shall specify the time, place, manner, conditions, and scope of the examination and the person by whom the examination is to be made. The person being examined may record the examination by audio or video means unless the party requesting the examination shows that the recording would unduly interfere with the examination.

(b) Report. The party requesting the examination shall disclose a detailed written report of the examiner, setting out the examiner's findings, including results of all tests made, diagnoses and conclusions. If the party requesting the examination wishes to call the examiner as a witness, the party shall disclose ~~an~~ the expert ~~report~~ as required by Rule 26(a)(3).

(c) Sanctions. If a party or a person in the custody or under the legal control of a party fails to obey an order entered under paragraph (a), the court on motion may take any action authorized by Rule 37(c)(2), except that the failure cannot be treated as contempt of court.

Advisory Committee Notes

Rule 35 has been substantially revised. Few rules have generated such an extensive motions practice and disputes as the previous version of Rule 35. The battles typically raged over the production of reports of prior examinations by the examining physician, and whether the examination could be recorded or witnessed by a third party.

It is also doubtful that any rule under consideration for change has been as thoroughly studied as Rule 35. A subcommittee of the advisory committee has spent several years collecting information from both sides of the personal-injury bar and from the trial courts. While no rule amendment will please everyone, the committee is of the opinion that making recording the default for medical examinations, and removing the

requirement for automatic production of prior reports, will best resolve the issues that have bedeviled the trial courts and counsel.

The Committee re-emphasizes that a medical examination is not a matter of right, but should only be permitted by the trial court upon a showing of good cause. Rule 35 has always provided, and still provides, that the proponent of an examination must demonstrate good cause for the examination. And, as before, the motion and order should detail the specifics of the proposed examination.

The committee is concerned about the rise of the so-called "professional witness" in the area of medical examinations. This phenomenon is not limited to Utah. See, A World of Hurt: Exams of Injured Workers Fuel Mutual Mistrust, By N. R. Kleinfield, New York Times, April 4, 2009. The committee recognizes that there is often nothing "independent" about a Rule 35 examiner. Therefore, the trial court should refrain from the use of the phrase "independent medical examiner," using instead the neutral appellation "medical examiner," "Rule 35 examiner," or the like.

As noted, a major source of controversy has been requests by plaintiffs' counsel to audio- or video-record examinations. The Committee has determined that the benefits of recording generally outweigh the downsides in a typical case. The new rule therefore provides that recording shall be permitted as a matter of course unless the person moving for the examination demonstrates the recording would unduly interfere with the examination. See, Boswell v. Schultz, 173 P.3d 390, 394 (OK 2007) ("A video recording would be a superior method of providing an impartial record of the physical examination.")

Nothing in the rule requires that the recording be conducted by a professional, and it is not the intent of the committee that this extra cost should be necessary. The committee also recognizes that recording may require the presence of a third party to manage the recording equipment, but this must be done without interference and as unobtrusively as possible.

The former requirement of Rule 35(c) providing for the production of prior reports on other examinees by the examiner was a source of great confusion and controversy. This provision does not exist in the federal version of the rule, nor is the Committee aware of any other similar state court rule. After much deliberation and discussion, it is

the Committee's view that this provision is better eliminated, and in the new rule there is no longer an automatic requirement for the production of prior reports of other examinations. Medical examiners will be treated as other expert witnesses are treated, with the requirement of a report under Rule 26. The Committee notes that, as with other experts, the use of subpoenas to obtain prior reports remains an option for the practitioner in appropriate circumstances, subject to Rule 26 proportionality standards.

Rule 36. Request for admission.

(a) Request for admission. A party may serve upon any other party a written request to admit the truth of any discoverable matter set forth in the request, including the genuineness of any document. The matter must relate to statements or opinions of fact or of the application of law to fact. Each matter shall be separately stated. ~~During standard discovery, a party may not request admission of more than 25 matters.~~ A copy of the document shall be served with the request unless it has already been furnished or made available for inspection and copying. The request shall notify the responding party that the matters will be deemed admitted unless the party responds within 28 days after service of the request.

(b) Answer or objection.

(b)(1) The matter is admitted unless, within 28 days after service of the request, the responding party serves upon the requesting party a written response.

(b)(2) The answering party shall restate the request before responding to it. Unless the answering party objects to a matter, the party must admit or deny the matter or state in detail the reasons why the party cannot truthfully admit or deny. A party may identify the part of a matter which is true and deny the rest. A denial shall fairly meet the substance of the request. Lack of information is not a reason for failure to admit or deny unless the information known or reasonably available is insufficient to form an admission or denial. If the truth of a matter is a genuine issue for trial, the answering party may deny the matter or state the reasons for the failure to admit or deny.

(b)(3) If the party objects to a matter, the party shall state the reasons for the objection. Any reason not stated is waived unless excused by the court for good cause. The party shall admit or deny any part of a matter that is not objectionable. It is not grounds for objection that the truth of a matter is a genuine issue for trial.

(c) Effect of admission. Any matter admitted under this rule is conclusively established unless the court on motion permits withdrawal or amendment of the admission. The court may permit withdrawal or amendment if the presentation of the merits of the action will be promoted and withdrawal or amendment will not prejudice the requesting party. Any admission under this rule is for the purpose of the pending

action only. It is not an admission for any other purpose, nor may it be used in any other action.

Rule 37. Discovery and disclosure motions; Sanctions.

(a) Motion for order compelling disclosure or discovery.

(a)(1) A party may move to compel disclosure or discovery and for appropriate sanctions if another party:

(a)(1)(A) fails to disclose, fails to respond to a discovery request, or makes an evasive or incomplete disclosure or response to a request for discovery;

(a)(1)(B) fails to disclose, fails to respond to a discovery request, fails to supplement a disclosure or response or makes a supplemental disclosure or response without an adequate explanation of why the additional or correct information was not previously provided;

(a)(1)(C) objects to a discovery request ;

(a)(1)(D) impedes, delays, or frustrates the fair examination of a witness; or

(a)(1)(E) otherwise fails to make full and complete disclosure or discovery.

(a)(2) Appropriate court. A motion may be made to the court in which the action is pending, or, on matters relating to a deposition or a document subpoena, to the court in the district where the deposition is being taken or where the subpoena was served. A motion for an order to a nonparty witness shall be made to the court in the district where the deposition is being taken or where the subpoena was served.

(a)(3) The moving party must attach a copy of the request for discovery, the disclosure, or the response at issue. The moving party must also attach a certification that the moving party has in good faith conferred or attempted to confer with the other affected parties in an effort to secure the disclosure or discovery without court action and that the discovery being sought is proportional under Rule 26(b)(1).

(b) Motion for protective order.

(b)(1) A party or the person from whom discovery is sought may move for an order of protection from discovery. The moving party shall attach to the motion a copy of the request for discovery or the response at issue. The moving party shall also attach a certification that the moving party has in good faith conferred or attempted to confer with other affected parties to resolve the dispute without court action.

(b)(2) If the motion raises issues of proportionality under Rule 26(b)(1), the party seeking the discovery has the burden of demonstrating that the information being sought is proportional.

(c) Orders. The court may make any order to require disclosure or discovery or to protect a party or person from discovery being conducted in bad faith or from annoyance, embarrassment, oppression, or undue burden or expense, or to achieve proportionality under Rule 26(b)(1), including one or more of the following:

(c)(1) that the discovery not be had;

(c)(2) that the discovery may be had only on specified terms and conditions, including a designation of the time or place;

(c)(3) that the discovery may be had only by a method of discovery other than that selected by the party seeking discovery;

(c)(4) that certain matters not be inquired into, or that the scope of the discovery be limited to certain matters;

(c)(5) that discovery be conducted with no one present except persons designated by the court;

(c)(6) that a deposition after being sealed be opened only by order of the court;

(c)(7) that a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information not be disclosed or be disclosed only in a designated way;

(c)(8) that the parties simultaneously file specified documents or information enclosed in sealed envelopes to be opened as directed by the court;

(c)(9) that a question about a statement or opinion of fact or the application of law to fact not be answered until after designated discovery has been completed or until a pretrial conference or other later time; or

(c)(10) that the costs, expenses and attorney fees of discovery be allocated among the parties as justice requires.

(c)(11) If a protective order terminates a deposition, it shall be resumed only upon the order of the court in which the action is pending.

(d) Expenses and sanctions for motions. If the motion to compel or for a protective order is granted, or if a party provides disclosure or discovery or withdraws a disclosure or discovery request after a motion is filed, the court may order the party, witness or

attorney to pay the reasonable expenses and attorney fees incurred on account of the motion if the court finds that the party, witness, or attorney did not act in good faith or asserted a position that was not substantially justified.

(e) Failure to comply with order.

(e)(1) Sanctions by court in district where deposition is taken. Failure to follow an order of the court in the district in which the deposition is being taken or where the document subpoena was served is contempt of that court.

(e)(2) Sanctions by court in which action is pending. Unless the court finds that the failure was substantially justified, the court in which the action is pending may take such action in regard to the failure to follow its orders as are just, including the following:

(e)(2)(A) deem the matter or any other designated facts to be established in accordance with the claim or defense of the party obtaining the order;

(e)(2)(B) prohibit the disobedient party from supporting or opposing designated claims or defenses or from introducing designated matters into evidence;

(e)(2)(C) stay further proceedings until the order is obeyed;

(e)(2)(D) dismiss all or part of the action, strike all or part of the pleadings, or render judgment by default on all or part of the action;

(e)(2)(E) order the party or the attorney to pay the reasonable expenses, including attorney fees, caused by the failure;

(e)(2)(F) treat the failure to obey an order, other than an order to submit to a physical or mental examination, as contempt of court; and

(e)(2)(G) instruct the jury regarding an adverse inference.

(f) Expenses on failure to admit. If a party fails to admit the genuineness of any document or the truth of any matter as requested under Rule 36, and if the party requesting the admissions proves the genuineness of the document or the truth of the matter, the party requesting the admissions may apply to the court for an order requiring the other party to pay the reasonable expenses incurred in making that proof, including reasonable attorney fees. The court shall make the order unless it finds that:

(f)(1) the request was held objectionable pursuant to Rule 36(a);

(f)(2) the admission sought was of no substantial importance;

(f)(3) there were reasonable grounds to believe that the party failing to admit might prevail on the matter;

(f)(4) that the request is not proportional under Rule 26(b)(1); or

(f)(5) there were other good reasons for the failure to admit.

(g) Failure of party to attend at own deposition. The court on motion may take any action authorized by paragraph (e)(2) if a party or an officer, director, or managing agent of a party or a person designated under Rule 30(b)(6) or 31(a) to testify on behalf of a party fails to appear before the officer taking the deposition, after proper service of the notice. The failure to act described in this paragraph may not be excused on the ground that the discovery sought is objectionable unless the party failing to act has applied for a protective order under paragraph (b).

(h) Failure to disclose. If a party fails to disclose a witness, document or other material as required by Rule 26(a) or Rule 26(e)(1), or to amend a prior response to discovery as required by Rule 26(e)(2), that party shall not be permitted to use the witness, document or other material at any hearing unless the failure to disclose is harmless or the party shows good cause for the failure to disclose. In addition to or in lieu of this sanction, the court on motion may take any action authorized by paragraph (e)(2).

(i) Failure to preserve evidence. Nothing in this rule limits the inherent power of the court to take any action authorized by paragraph (e)(2) if a party destroys, conceals, alters, tampers with or fails to preserve a document, tangible item, electronic data or other evidence in violation of a duty. Absent exceptional circumstances, a court may not impose sanctions under these rules on a party for failing to provide electronically stored information lost as a result of the routine, good-faith operation of an electronic information system.

Advisory Committee Notes

The 2010 amendments to Rule 37 make two principal changes. First, the amended Rule 37 consolidates provisions for motions for a protective order (formerly set forth in Rule 26(c)) with provisions for motions to compel. By consolidating the standards for these two motions in a single rule, the Advisory Committee sought to highlight some of

the parallels and distinctions between the two types of motions and to present them in a single rule.

Second, the amended Rule 37 incorporates the new Rule 26 standard of "proportionality" as a principal criterion on which motions to compel or for a protective order should be evaluated. As to motions to compel, Rule 37(a)(3) requires that a party moving to compel discovery certify to the court "that the discovery being sought is proportional under Rule 26(b)(1)." Rule 37(b) makes clear that a lack of proportionality may be raised as ground for seeking a protective order, indicating that "the party seeking the discovery has the burden of demonstrating that the information being sought is proportional."