

Rule 7.1 Motions

(a) **Motions Governed by Case Management Plan.** All motions are governed by the Case Management Plan adopted pursuant to the Civil Justice Reform Act of 1990.

(b) **Motions to be in Writing.** All motions, unless made during a hearing or trial, must be in writing and must be made sufficiently in advance of the trial to avoid any delay in trial.

(c) **Memorandum by Moving Party.** The moving party must serve and file with its motion a memorandum of the points and authorities on which it relies in support of the motion.

(d) **Memorandum in Opposition.** Unless otherwise ordered by the Judicial Officer, each party opposing a motion must serve and file a memorandum in opposition within thirty (30) days after service of any dispositive motion and within fourteen (14) days after service of any non-dispositive motion. If a party opposing a motion was served with the motion under Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(b)(2)(C), (D), or (F), three days shall be added to the prescribed period as provided in Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(d).

(e) **Reply Memorandum.** Unless otherwise ordered by the Judicial Officer, the moving party may serve and file a reply memorandum in support of any dispositive motion within fourteen (14) days after service of the memorandum in opposition and in support of any non-dispositive motion within seven (7) days after service of the memorandum in opposition. If the moving party was served with the memorandum in opposition under Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(b)(2)(C), (D), or (F), three days shall be added to the prescribed period as provided in Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(d).

(f) **Length of Memoranda.** Without prior approval of the Judicial Officer for good cause shown, memoranda relating to dispositive motions must not exceed ten (10) pages in length for expedited cases, twenty (20) pages for administrative, standard and unassigned cases, thirty (30) pages for complex cases, and forty (40) pages for mass tort cases. Every memorandum related to a dispositive motion must be accompanied by a certification specifying the track, if any, to which the case has been assigned and a statement certifying that the memorandum adheres to the page limitations set forth in this section. In the event that the page limitations have been modified by order of the Judicial Officer, a statement to that effect must be included in the certification along with a statement that the memorandum complies with those modifications. Failure to comply with these provisions may be sanctionable at the discretion of the Judicial Officer. Memoranda relating to all other motions must not exceed fifteen (15) pages in length. All memoranda exceeding fifteen (15) pages in length, excepting those in Social Security reviews, must have a table of contents, a table of authorities cited, a brief statement of the issue(s) to be decided, and a summary of the argument presented. Appendices of evidentiary, statutory or other materials are excluded from these page limitations and may be bound separately from memoranda.

(g) **Hearings.** The Judicial Officer may rule on unopposed motions without hearing at any time after the time for filing an opposition has expired. The Judicial Officer may also rule on any opposed motion without hearing at any time after the time for filing a reply memorandum has elapsed.

(h) **Untimely Motions.** Any motion (other than motions made during hearings or at trial) served and filed beyond the motion deadline established by the Court may be denied solely on the basis of the untimely filing.

(i) **Sanctions for Filing Frivolous Motions or Oppositions.** Filing a frivolous motion or opposing a motion on frivolous grounds may result in the imposition of appropriate sanctions including the assessment of costs and attorneys' fees against counsel and/or the party involved.

~~(j) **Motions Control Program.** Pursuant to a motion adopted by the Sixth Circuit Judicial Council at its November 1, 1993 meeting which authorized the chief judge of each district to monitor the motions docket within the district and to implement a motions control program, the Court adopted the Motions Control Program for the Northern District of Ohio set forth in General Order No. 94-01 (see Appendix H).~~

Last revised 12/4/16/6/20. See Historical Notes for full revision history.