

Agenda

Advisory Committee on Rules of Civil Procedure

June 23, 2010
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	Tab 1	Fran Wikstrom
Recognition of Justice Thomas Lee		Fran Wikstrom
Simplified Civil Procedures	Tab 2	Fran Wikstrom
10-Day Summons	Tab 3	Tim Shea

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

Meeting Schedule

September 22, 2010
October 27, 2010
November 17, 2010

Tab 1

MINUTES

UTAH SUPREME COURT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

Wednesday, May 26, 2010
Administrative Office of the Courts

Francis M. Wikstrom, Presiding

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

EXCUSED: Tim Shea

STAFF: Sammi Anderson

GUESTS: Clark Sabey

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Mr. Wikstrom called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Wikstrom entertained comments from the committee concerning the April 28, 2010 minutes. No comments were made and Mr. Wikstrom asked for a motion that the minutes be approved. The motion was duly made and seconded, and unanimously approved.

II. RULE 58A. ENTRY OF JUDGMENT.

Mr. Wikstrom asked for discussion regarding the technical amendments to Rule 58A. A motion was made to approve the amendments circulated by Tim Shea in advance of the meeting. The motion was seconded, and unanimously approved.

III. WELCOME TO JUDGE TOOMEY.

Mr. Wikstrom welcomed Judge Toomey to the committee. Judge Toomey replaces Judge Quinn.

IV. INTRODUCTIONS.

Pursuant to Utah Supreme Court Rule 11-101(4), Judge Toomey formally introduced herself.

V. REPORT ON 10 DAY SUMMONS.

Mr. Wikstrom reported to the committee regarding a conversation with a collections lawyer on the 10 day summons issue. Mr. Wikstrom reported that members of the collections bar believe that e-filing will solve some of the prior issues. The committee discussed the 10 day summons generally and whether such a summons should be allowed. The committee remained committed to the decision to eliminate the 10 day summons from the current version of the simplified rules.

VI. REPORT ON MR. WIKSTROM'S PRESENTATION AT INNS OF COURT.

Mr. Wikstrom reported on his presentation on the simplified rules to one of the Inns of Court. Mr. Wikstrom walked the group through the details, standard discovery, extraordinary discovery, etc. Mr. Wikstrom indicated that the reception was not negative.

VII. SIMPLIFIED RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE.

Rule 26. Ms. McIntosh noted one small change on Rule 26, line 11. The word “and” should be moved up to line 9, following the semi-colon.

Rule 30. Mr. Davies noted there has been some discussion regarding reducing further the deposition hours allotted to each side. Mr. Slauch previously suggested reducing the allotted hours from 20 to 16. The committee discussed various limits. Judge Pullan suggested reducing the limit to 16. Messrs. Wikstrom and Hafen advocated the higher limit of 20. Mr. Smith noted that multiple party cases will go more smoothly under the 20 hour limit because then multiple parties on the same side have more room to get what they need. A motion was made to drop to 16 the limit on deposition hours per side. The motion was seconded and the committee voted 7 to 5 to reduce the hours limit from 20 to 16.

Rule 35. Mr. Wikstrom noted that the current Rule 35 is in the same iteration as it was at the last meeting. The committee voted on it at the last meeting, but the vote was close. The close vote arose primarily from the debate about whether the examining doctor should have to disclose reports and testimony for four years prior. Mr. Carney noted that he was in opposition, but that there has been full discussion and the vote is fair and well taken. Mr. Carney also noted that a good Advisory Committee Note would be useful here and volunteered to do that. There was no motion to revisit the vote. Rule 35 stands as drafted in the last meeting, with the exception of one technical change: Mr. Davies noted that on Rule 35(c), line 21, it should be (e)(2), not (d)(2).

Rule 37. The committee discussed motions to compel disclosures under rule 37. The general idea is we are moving away from Rule 26(a)(1) disclosures as currently used in practice. Parties will now have to disclose at the outset everything upon which they intend to rely. Mr. Wikstrom noted that it is self-policing - if parties don't disclose the information, they cannot use it. There will therefore be little need for a motion to compel the first sets of disclosures.

The committee agreed to leave the language regarding "disclosures" in 37(a) through (a)(1)(B). The committee also agreed to leave the word "may" in place in lines 60-63. "May" allows courts more discretion to award fees if certain findings are made. Judge Pullan emphasized that we are introducing some uncertainty into the system about what "proportionality" means and courts therefore should have more discretion in determining sanctions.

Following this discussion, Mr. Wikstrom announced that there is now a complete set of revised rules. The committee turned to the task of drafting Advisory Committee Notes. Mr. Carney agreed to prepare the first draft of a Note for Rule 30 pertaining to expert depositions and for Rule 35. Messrs. Shaughnessy and Blanch and Judge Pullan will prepare the first draft of a Note for Rule 26. Mr. Davies agreed to prepare the Note for Rule 8 and Messrs. Hafen and Lee will draft a Note for Rule 37.

The committee discussed ideas for rolling out the new rules, including consideration of a pilot program. Judge Toomey noted it is difficult for the courts if the change is not uniform. Mr. Hafen noted the concerns with forum shopping. Mr. Carney noted that the other problem with a pilot program is it is not practical. It is difficult to do it fairly and effectively. The committee agreed that a state-wide rollout is the most effective idea, and that a pilot program is essentially unworkable and imprudent. Mr. Wikstrom recommended that the committee recommend to the Utah Supreme Court that the simplified rules be adopted as proposed rules across the board. Mr. Wikstrom noted that, once the rules are in effect, there will time to study their effect on the system.

The committee discussed further ideas for rolling out the new rules and working to educate the judiciary and bar regarding the changes and their effect. Various committee members agreed to approach their constituencies, *ie*, bar conventions, county bars, board of district court judges, the bar journal, litigation section quarterly luncheons, annual district judges conference, and to seek out opportunities to present to those bodies regarding the rules changes.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm. The next meeting will be June 23, 2010.

Tab 2

PROPOSED RULES GOVERNING CIVIL DISCOVERY

by

The Utah Supreme Court Advisory Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure

Background

For many years the Civil Rules Committee has been concerned with the increased expansion and cost of discovery and the impact of this on our civil justice system. Rule 1 states that the rules “shall be liberally construed to secure the just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of every action.” The discovery rules may have contributed to “just” results in the sense that they provide parties of sufficient means with the ability to discover all facts relevant to the litigation, but modern, expansive discovery has had a decidedly negative impact on the “speedy” and “inexpensive” resolution of civil disputes. Current civil discovery practice fosters one of the goals of Rule 1 at the expense of the other two.

Discovery has become the focus and the most expensive part of modern litigation. Discovery is viewed also as a primary contributor to delay.

The committee’s observations have been borne out by recent empirical research. A 2008 survey of the most experienced trial lawyers in the country conducted by the American College of Trial Lawyers Task Force on Civil Discovery and the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System at Denver University found that our civil justice system takes too long and costs too much. Discovery was seen as the primary problem. *See, AM. COLL. OF TRIAL LAWYERS TASK FORCE ON DISCOVERY & INST. FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE AM. LEGAL SYS., FINAL REPORT (2009)*. These results were corroborated by similar surveys conducted by the Litigation Section of the ABA and the National Employment Lawyers Association. More than 80% of the respondents in the ACTL, ABA, and NELA surveys said that they or their firms turned down cases because the amount at issue did not justify the expense. The most commonly cited amount-in-controversy threshold, below which a case cannot be economically handled, was \$100,000.

These surveys were directed to the federal discovery rules which are virtually the same as the Utah Rules. Indeed, during the past 30 years or more, the Utah Rules have evolved to be increasingly consistent with the federal rules and their amendments. It was perceived that consistency with the federal rules, along with the extensive case-law interpreting them, would provide a positive benefit. The federal discovery rules are now being seriously questioned as well, but the committee has come to question the very premise upon which Utah adopted those rules. The federal rules were designed for complex cases with large amounts in controversy that typify the federal system. The vast majority of cases filed in Utah courts are not those types of cases. As a result, our state civil justice system has become unavailable to many people because they cannot afford it.

The concepts underlying the federal discovery rules were sound when they were first adopted—a time before copy machines, computers, and massive electronic data storage. Electronic information is expanding at a staggering rate. Discovery has become the most expensive part of civil litigation and, unless changes are made, discovery will continue to become more problematic as the amount of electronic information expands.

Another problem of our modern world is the need for expert witnesses. As science and technology expand, so does the need for expert witnesses to explain them. Consequently, expert discovery has become an increasingly integral part of litigation and a very expensive part of discovery.

The committee has spent the last three years studying these problems and drafting a new set of discovery rules designed to achieve all three goals of Rule 1. The changes are fundamental and will require a change of mind-set by judges, lawyers, and litigants. Specifically, the change in mind-set is *away* from a system in which discovery is the predominant aspect of litigation (in which every party has a right or obligation to incur or bear the cost of almost any request for discovery) and *toward* a system in which each request for discovery must be justified by its proponent, and the focus is on moving quickly and efficiently to the disposition of the merits of the case (through settlement, summary judgment, or trial).

Proportionality Is the Key Principle Underlying the Proposed Discovery Rules

Under the existing rules, the scope of discovery is governed by “relevance” or the “likelihood to lead to discovery of admissible evidence.” UT.R.CIV.P. 26(b)(1). As the information pool expands, so expands the universe of discoverable information.

Proportionality will govern the scope of discovery under the proposed rules. Simply stated, it means that the cost of discovery should be proportional to what is at stake in the litigation. The concept of proportionality is not new. It has existed since 1987 (not as “proportionality” *per se*) in Rule 26(b)(3) (“The frequency or extent of the use of the discovery methods ... shall be limited by the court if it determines that: ... (C) the discovery is 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.”) But proportionality has been largely overlooked by all of us who have operated for decades under the principle that a party who has relevant information must produce it. Under the proposed rules, proportionality will become the controlling factor for all discovery.

Proportionality exists if the following standards are met:

1. the likely benefits of the proposed discovery outweigh the burden or expense;
2. the discovery is consistent with the overall case management and will further the just, speedy and inexpensive determination of the case;
3. 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;
4. the discovery is not unreasonably cumulative or duplicative;
5. the information cannot be obtained from another source that is more convenient, less burdensome or less expensive; and
6. 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.

The second significant change in the proposed rules involves the burden of demonstrating entitlement to discovery. In the past, the operative presumption has been that a party is entitled

to discovery within the broad parameters of relevance unless the other party can persuade a court to the contrary. Under the proposed rules, this presumption would be changed to require the party seeking discovery to demonstrate, in every case, that the requested discovery is relevant *and* proportional with respect to the amount and issues in controversy.

Another concept that existed in theory, but was rarely used, is cost-shifting. Presently the recipient of the discovery request bears the cost of producing the information. Under the proposed rules, a court may require the requesting party to pay some or all of the costs of producing the information to achieve proportionality.

Disclosures

The proposed rules seek to reduce discovery costs by requiring each party to produce, at a very early stage 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 all witnesses the party may call in its case-in-chief with a description of expected testimony. The duty is a continuing one, and disclosures must be supplemented as new evidence and witnesses become known. The penalty for failure to make timely disclosure is that the evidence may not be used in the party's case-in-chief. These proposed new disclosures are in addition to the disclosures presently required under Rule 26.

Disclosure is staggered. Since the plaintiff controls when it brings the action, plaintiffs are required to 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 get each party to "lay on the table" the evidence it expects to use to prove its claims or defenses. The opposing party will then be better able to evaluate the case and to decide what further discovery is necessary. If parties anticipate wanting to use evidence at trial, they will be liberal in disclosing it because of the penalty for failure to do so. The goal of the proposed new disclosure rules is to prevent "sandbagging."

Standard Discovery

After initial disclosures are made, each party may engage in what the proposed rules term "standard discovery." Since each party will automatically receive disclosures of what the opponent expects to use in its case-in-chief, it is expected that standard discovery will be used to find those documents and other evidence that are harmful, rather than helpful, to the opponent's case.

Standard discovery is limited. Each party may take up to 20 hours of depositions, with the proviso that a deposition of a party may not exceed seven hours and a deposition of any other witness may not exceed four hours. The number of interrogatories is limited to 15, and requests for production, and requests for admission are also limited to 25 each.

The expectation is that, for most state cases, standard discovery and the required disclosures will be more than adequate. A presumptive time limit of 150 days is imposed. After 150 days of discovery, the case will be presumed ready for trial.

Extraordinary Discovery

The committee recognizes that there will be some cases for which standard discovery is not sufficient or appropriate. For those cases, the proposed rules provide two avenues to obtain

additional discovery. The first is by stipulation. The parties may stipulate to as much additional discovery as they desire PROVIDED that they stipulate that the additional discovery is proportional to what is at stake in the litigation and EACH party certifies that it has reviewed and approved a discovery budget for the additional discovery. If these conditions are met, then the court will not second-guess the parties and their counsel and must approve the stipulation. But it is not sufficient for the lawyers to get together and agree to millions of dollars of additional discovery. Each lawyer must also privately discuss the cost of the additional discovery with the client, and the client must certify that a discovery budget has been reviewed and approved.

The second means of obtaining additional discovery is by motion. The committee anticipates there will be cases in which there is a significant disparity between the parties' resources or access to information. To prevent a party from taking advantage in this situation, the proposed rules allow any party to move for additional discovery. Counsel must demonstrate that the additional discovery is proportional and the client must certify that the it has reviewed and approved a discovery budget.

Whether by motion or stipulation, the parties will not be "shooting in the dark" because they will have received the mandatory continuing disclosures from the other party and will have had the opportunity to conduct standard discovery. This should allow them both to better focus any requests for additional discovery and to better demonstrate proportionality.

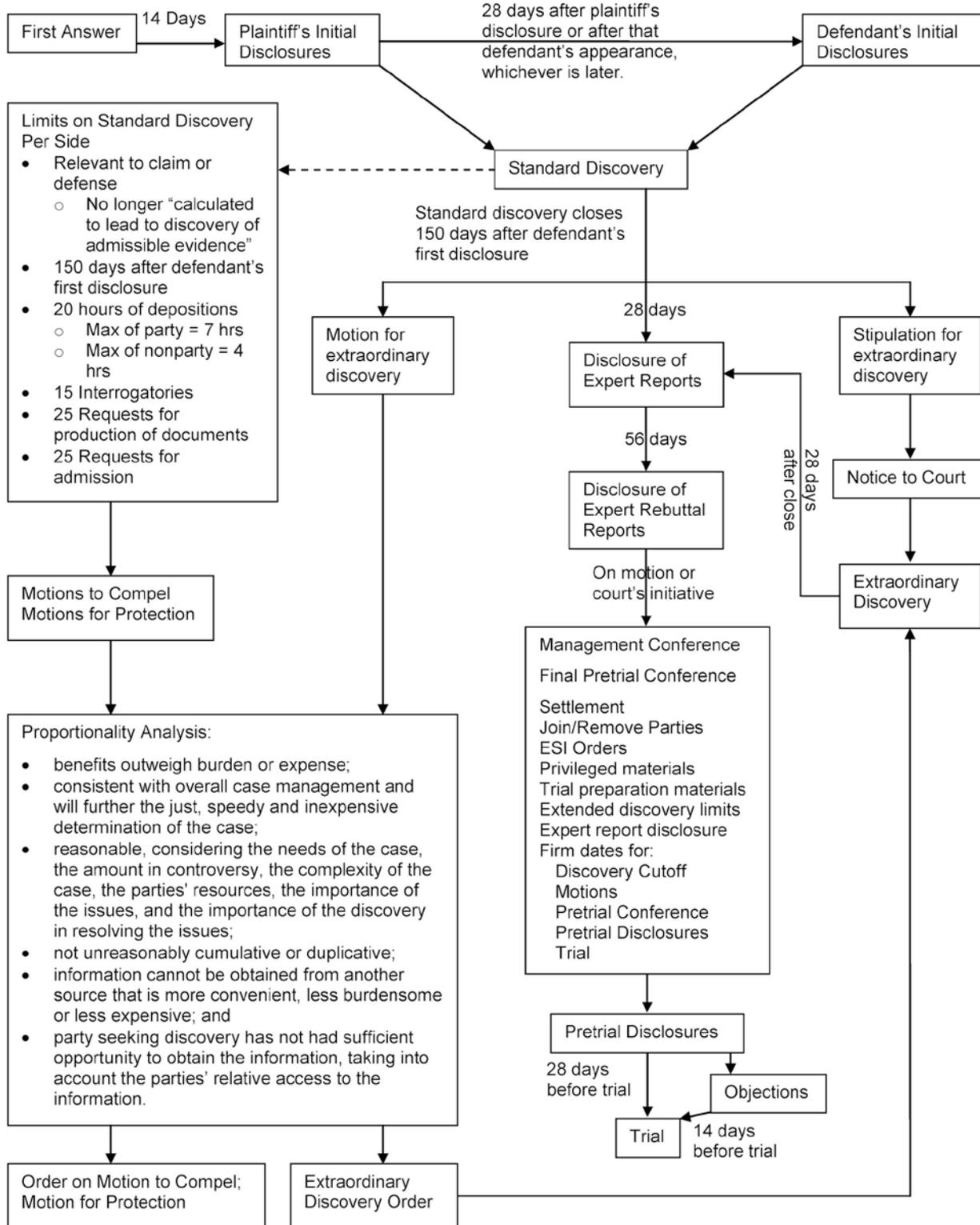
Expert Discovery

Expert discovery has become an ever-increasing component of discovery cost. If an expert's testimony is limited to what is fairly disclosed in the required expert disclosure, then there should be no need to take the expert's deposition. So the proposed rules do just that. Depositions of retained experts are not allowed in the proposed rules, but the expert cannot testify beyond what is fairly disclosed in the report. This will allow the opposing party to prepare knowing that the expert will not be able to offer surprise testimony at trial.

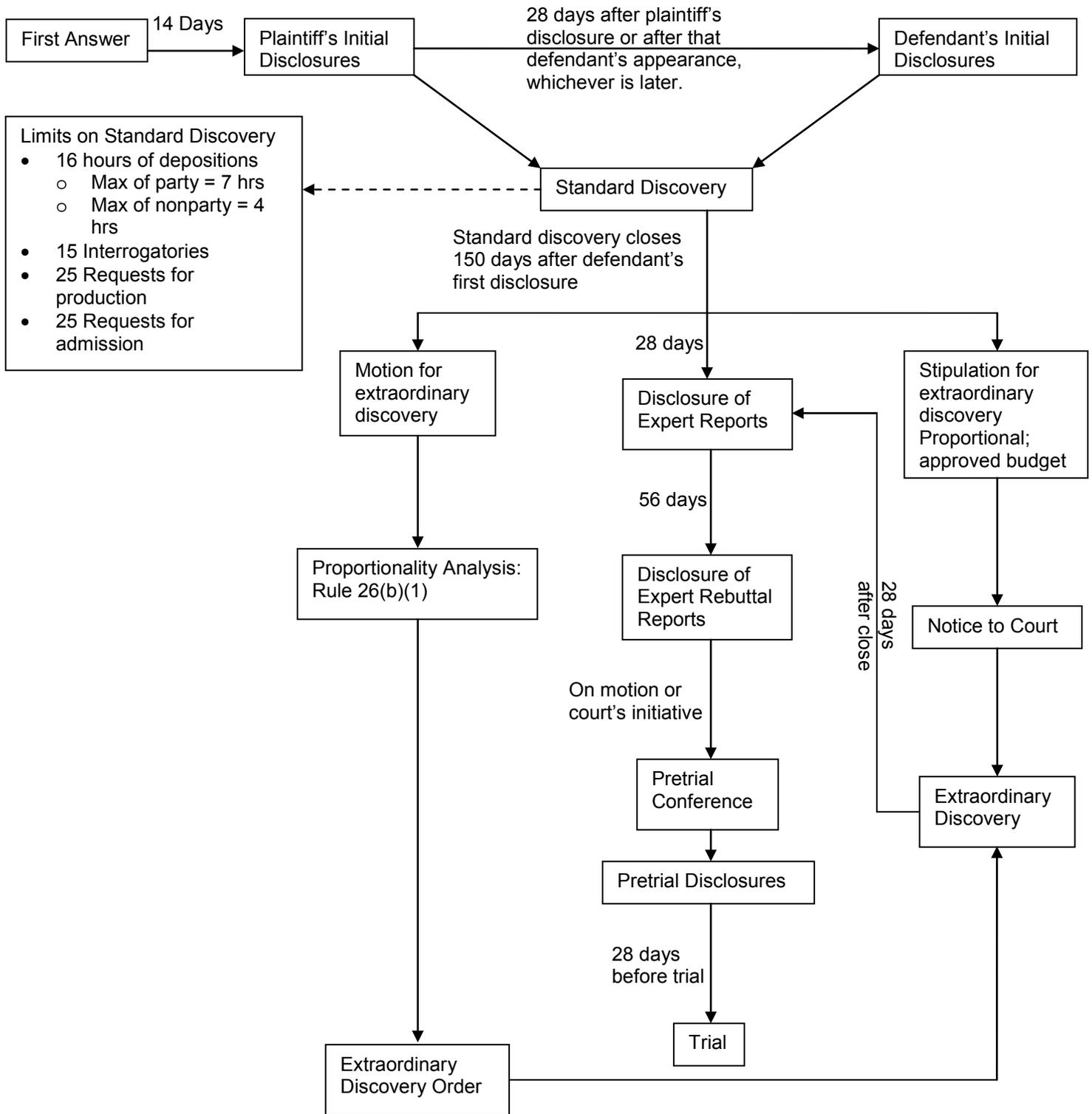
Disclosure and Discovery Flowsheet

The attached flowsheet demonstrates how disclosure and discovery will proceed under the proposed rules.

Disclosure and Discovery under Proposed Rules



Disclosure and Discovery under Proposed Rules



1 **Rule 1. General provisions.**

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

11 Advisory Committee Notes

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1 **Rule 3. Commencement of action.**

2 (a) How commenced. A civil action is commenced by filing a complaint with the
3 court.

4 (b) Payment dishonored. If a check or other form of payment tendered as a filing fee
5 is dishonored, the party shall pay the fee by cash or cashier's check within 10 days after
6 notification by the court. Dishonor of a check or other form of payment does not affect
7 the validity of the filing, but may be grounds for such sanctions as the court deems
8 appropriate, which may include dismissal of the action and the award of costs and
9 attorney fees.

10 Advisory Committee Notes

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1 **Rule 4. Process.**

2 (a) Signing of summons. The summons shall be signed and issued by the plaintiff or
3 the plaintiff's attorney. Separate summonses may be signed and served.

4 (b)(i) Service. The summons and a copy of the complaint shall be served no later
5 than 120 days after the complaint is filed unless the court allows a longer period of time
6 for good cause. If the summons and complaint are not timely served, the action shall be
7 dismissed without prejudice on application of any party or upon the court's own initiative.

8 (b)(ii) In an action against two or more defendants, if service has been timely made
9 upon one of them,

10 (b)(ii)(A) the plaintiff may proceed against those served, and

11 (b)(ii)(B) the others may be served or appear at any time before trial.

12 (c) Contents of summons.

13 (c)(1) The summons shall contain the name of the court, the address of the court,
14 the names of the parties to the action, and the county in which it is brought. It shall be
15 directed to the defendant, state the name, address and telephone number of the
16 plaintiff's attorney, if any, and otherwise the plaintiff's address and telephone number. It
17 shall state the time within which the defendant must answer the complaint in writing,
18 and shall notify the defendant that judgment by default will be entered against the
19 defendant for failure to answer the complaint in writing.

20 (c)(2) If service is made by publication of the summons without the complaint, the
21 summons shall also briefly state the subject matter of the action, the relief demanded,
22 and that the complaint is on file with the court.

23 (d) Method of Service. Unless waived under paragraph (f), service of the summons
24 and complaint shall be by one of the following methods:

25 (d)(1) Personal service. The summons and complaint may be served in any state or
26 judicial district of the United States by the sheriff or constable or by the deputy of either,
27 by a United States Marshal or by the marshal's deputy, or by a person 18 years of age
28 or older at the time of service and not a party to the action or a party's attorney.
29 Personal service shall be made as follows:

30 (d)(1)(A) Upon any individual other than one covered by paragraphs (B), (C) or (D),
31 by delivering a copy of the summons and complaint to the individual personally, or by

32 delivering them to a person of suitable age and discretion residing at the individual's
33 dwelling or by delivering them to an agent authorized by appointment or by law to
34 receive service of process;

35 (d)(1)(B) Upon a minor, by delivering a copy of the summons and complaint to the
36 minor and to the minor's parent or guardian or, if none can be found within the state,
37 then to any person having the care and control of the minor, or with whom the minor
38 resides;

39 (d)(1)(C) Upon a protected person judicially declared incapacitated, by delivering a
40 copy of the summons and complaint to the protected person and to the person's
41 guardian or conservator;

42 (d)(1)(D) Upon an individual incarcerated or committed at a facility operated by the
43 state or any of its political subdivisions, by delivering a copy of the summons and
44 complaint to the person's guardian or conservator, if one has been appointed, or to the
45 person who has the care, custody, or control of the individual to be served, or to that
46 person's designee;

47 (d)(1)(E) Upon a corporation not otherwise provided for, upon a partnership or upon
48 an unincorporated association or business entity which is subject to suit under a
49 common name, by delivering a copy of the summons and complaint to an officer, a
50 managing agent, general agent, or other agent authorized by appointment or by law to
51 receive service of process and, if required by law by also mailing a copy of the
52 summons and the complaint to the entity and to any other person required by statute to
53 be served. If no such officer or agent can be found within the state, and the defendant
54 has an office or place of business then upon the person in charge of such office or place
55 of business;

56 (d)(1)(F) Upon an incorporated city or town, by delivering a copy of the summons
57 and complaint to the recorder;

58 (d)(1)(G) Upon a county, by delivering a copy of the summons and complaint to the
59 county clerk;

60 (d)(1)(H) Upon a school district or board of education, by delivering a copy of the
61 summons and complaint to the superintendent or business administrator;

62 (d)(1)(I) Upon an irrigation or drainage district, by delivering a copy of the summons
63 and complaint to the president or secretary;

64 (d)(1)(J) Upon the state of Utah, by delivering a copy of the summons and complaint
65 to the attorney general and any other person or agency required by statute to be
66 served; and

67 (d)(1)(K) Upon a department or agency of the state of Utah, or upon any public
68 board, commission or body, by delivering a copy of the summons and complaint to any
69 member of its governing board, or to its executive employee or secretary.

70 (d)(1)(L) If the person to be served refuses to accept a copy of the process, service
71 is effective if the person serving the same states the name of the process and offers to
72 deliver it.

73 (d)(2) Service by mail or commercial courier service.

74 (d)(2)(A) The summons and complaint may be served upon an individual other than
75 one covered by paragraphs (d)(1)(B) or (d)(1)(C) by mail or commercial courier service
76 if the defendant signs a document indicating receipt.

77 (d)(2)(B) The summons and complaint may be served upon an entity covered by
78 paragraphs (d)(1)(E) through (d)(1)(I) by mail or commercial courier service if the
79 defendant's agent signs a document indicating receipt.

80 (d)(2)(C) Service by mail or commercial courier service is complete on the date the
81 receipt is signed.

82 (d)(3) Service in a foreign country. Service of the summons and complaint in a
83 foreign country shall be made as follows:

84 (d)(3)(A) by any internationally agreed means reasonably calculated to give notice,
85 such as those means authorized by the Hague Convention on the Service Abroad of
86 Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents;

87 (d)(3)(B) if there is no internationally agreed means of service or the applicable
88 international agreement allows other means of service, provided that service is
89 reasonably calculated to give notice:

90 (d)(3)(B)(i) in the manner prescribed by the law of the foreign country for service in
91 that country in an action in any of its courts of general jurisdiction;

92 (d)(3)(B)(ii) as directed by the foreign authority in response to a letter rogatory or
93 letter of request; or

94 (d)(3)(B)(iii) unless prohibited by the law of the foreign country, by delivery to the
95 individual personally or by any form of mail requiring a signed receipt, to be addressed
96 and dispatched by the clerk of the court to the party to be served; or

97 (d)(3)(C) by other means not prohibited by international agreement as may be
98 directed by the court.

99 (d)(4) Other service.

100 (d)(4)(A) If the person to be served cannot be served through reasonable diligence,
101 or if service upon all of the parties is impracticable under the circumstances, the party
102 seeking service may file a motion supported by affidavit requesting an order allowing
103 service by other means. The supporting affidavit shall set forth the efforts made to
104 identify, locate or serve the party or the circumstances which make it impracticable to
105 serve all of the parties.

106 (d)(4)(B) If the motion is granted, the court shall order service by other means
107 reasonably calculated under all the circumstances to notify the party of the action. The
108 order shall specify the content of the process to be served and the event that constitutes
109 completion of service.

110 (e) Proof of Service.

111 (e)(1) The person effecting service shall file proof with the court. The proof of service
112 must state the date, place, and manner of service. Proof of service made pursuant to
113 paragraph (d)(2) shall include a receipt signed by the defendant or defendant's agent. If
114 service is made by a person other than by an attorney, the sheriff or constable, or by the
115 deputy of either, by a United States Marshal or by the marshal's deputy, the proof of
116 service shall be made by affidavit.

117 (e)(2) Proof of service in a foreign country shall be made as provided in these rules,
118 or by the law of the foreign country, or by order of the court. Proof of service under
119 paragraph (d)(3)(B)(iii) shall include a receipt signed by the addressee or other
120 evidence of delivery to the addressee satisfactory to the court.

121 (e)(3) Failure to make proof of service does not affect the validity of the service. The
122 court may allow proof of service to be amended.

123 (f) Waiver of Service; Payment of Costs for Refusing to Waive.

124 (f)(1) A plaintiff may request a person other than a minor or a protected person to
125 waive service of the summons and complaint. The request to waive service and the
126 summons and complaint shall be mailed, e-mailed or delivered to the person upon
127 whom service is authorized under paragraph (d). The request shall allow the defendant
128 at least 21 days from the date on which the request is sent to return the waiver, or 28
129 days if addressed to a person outside of the United States, and shall be substantially in
130 the form of the Notice of Lawsuit and Request for Waiver of Service of Summons set
131 forth in the Appendix of Forms attached to these rules.

132 (f)(2) A defendant who timely returns a waiver must respond to the complaint within
133 42 days after the date on which the request for waiver of service was mailed, e-mailed
134 or delivered, or 56 days after that date if addressed to a person outside of the United
135 States.

136 (f)(3) A defendant who waives service of the summons and complaint does not
137 thereby make any other waiver.

138 (f)(4) If a person refuses a request for waiver of service made according this rule, the
139 court shall impose upon the defendant the costs subsequently incurred in effecting
140 service.

141 Advisory Committee Notes

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1 **Rule 8. General rules of pleadings.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 (c)(3) a demand for relief.

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

29 (d) Effect of failure to deny. Statements in a pleading to which a responsive pleading
30 is required, other than statements of the amount of damage, are admitted if not denied

31 in the responsive pleading. Statements in a pleading to which no responsive pleading is
32 required or permitted are deemed denied or avoided.

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

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

40 Advisory Committee Notes

41 The 2010 amendments remove from Rule 8 prior language requiring a statement of
42 the party's "claim." Instead, the rule now requires a short and plain statement of both (1)
43 "facts showing that the party is entitled to relief" and (2) "the legal theory on which the
44 claim rests." The purpose of this amendment is twofold. First, the amendment clarifies
45 that parties must give notice of both the facts and the law that support their claim. The
46 amendment thus reconfirms longstanding case law that courts, on a Rule 12 motion, will
47 "accept the plaintiff's description of facts alleged in the complaint to be true, but . . .
48 need not accept extrinsic facts not pleaded nor . . . legal conclusions in contradiction of
49 the pleaded facts." *Allred v. Cook*, 590 P.2d 318, 319 (Utah 1979). "[M]ere conclusory
50 allegations in a pleading . . . are insufficient . . ." *Chapman v. Primary Children's Hosp.*,
51 784 P.2d 1181, 1186 (Utah 1989). Second, by clarifying that parties should plead facts,
52 this amendment to Rule 8 incentivizes further and earlier disclosure of facts, consistent
53 with the general approach of Utah's new "simplified rules" and other changes made by
54 the 2010 amendments, including those to Rule 26's disclosure requirements. To
55 facilitate access to justice, the committee intends that all pleadings—both complaints
56 and defenses—provide more and earlier notice of the facts alleged with less reliance on
57 discovery. However, by requiring parties to plead "facts," this amendment expressly
58 does not resurrect any prior requirement of technical or "code" pleading. Nor does the
59 amendment seek to import any heightened pleading requirement, including
60 interpretations of the United States Supreme Court's decisions in *Bell Atlantic Corp. v.*
61 *Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544 (2007), and *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 129 S. Ct. 1937 (2009), as

62 mandating a heightened standard of “plausibility” pleading under the Federal Rules of
63 Civil Procedure. Rather, the longstanding “liberal” standard of notice pleading remains
64 in effect in Utah. E.g., *Canfield v. Layton City*, 2005 UT 60, ¶ 14, 122 P.3d 622. Accord
65 Adam N. Steinman, *The Pleading Problem*, 62 *Stanford L. Rev.* 1293 (2010).

1 **Rule 16. Pretrial conferences.**

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

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

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

7 (a)(3) discouraging wasteful pretrial activities;

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

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

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

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

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

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

14 (a)(10) extending fact discovery;

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

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

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

20 (a)(14) any other appropriate matters.

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

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

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

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

34 Advisory Committee Notes

35

1 **Rule 26. General provisions governing disclosure and discovery.**

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

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

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

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

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

12 (a)(1)(B) a copy of all documents, data compilations, electronically stored
13 information, and tangible things in the possession or control of the party that the party
14 may offer in its case in chief;

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 (a)(2) Exemptions.

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

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

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

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

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

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

37 (a)(3) Disclosure of expert testimony.

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

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

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

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

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

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

66 (a)(4)(C) identification of each exhibit, including summaries of other evidence, unless
67 solely for impeachment, separately identifying those which the party will offer and those
68 which the party may offer.

69 (a)(4)(D) Disclosure required by paragraph (a)(4) shall be made at least 28 days
70 before trial. At least 14 days before trial, a party shall serve and file objections and
71 grounds for the objections to the use of a deposition and to the admissibility of exhibits.
72 Other than objections under Rules 402 and 403 of the Utah Rules of Evidence,
73 objections not listed are waived unless excused by the court for good cause.

74 (b) Discovery scope.

75 (b)(1) In general. Parties may discover any matter, not privileged, which is relevant
76 to the claim or defense of a party if the discovery satisfies the standards of
77 proportionality set forth below. Discovery and discovery requests are proportional if:

78 (b)(1)(A) the likely benefits of the proposed discovery outweigh the burden or
79 expense;

80 (b)(1)(B) the discovery is consistent with the overall case management and will
81 further the just, speedy and inexpensive determination of the case;

82 (b)(1)(C) the discovery is reasonable, considering the needs of the case, the amount
83 in controversy, the complexity of the case, the parties' resources, the importance of the
84 issues, and the importance of the discovery in resolving the issues;

85 (b)(1)(D) the discovery is not unreasonably cumulative or duplicative;

86 (b)(1)(E) the information cannot be obtained from another source that is more
87 convenient, less burdensome or less expensive; and

88 (b)(1)(F) the party seeking discovery has not had sufficient opportunity to obtain the
89 information by discovery or otherwise, taking into account the parties' relative access to
90 the information.

91 (b)(2) The party seeking discovery has the burden of showing proportionality. To
92 ensure proportionality, the court may enter orders under in Rule 37.

93 (b)(3) A party claiming that electronically stored information is not reasonably
94 accessible because of undue burden or cost shall describe the source of the
95 electronically stored information, the nature and extent of the burden, the nature of the
96 information not provided, and any other information that will enable other parties to
97 evaluate the claim.

98 (b)(4) Trial preparation materials. A party may obtain otherwise discoverable
99 documents and tangible things prepared in anticipation of litigation or for trial by or for
100 another party or by or for that other party's representative (including the party's attorney,
101 consultant, surety, indemnitor, insurer, or agent) only upon a showing that the party
102 seeking discovery has substantial need of the materials and that the party is unable
103 without undue hardship to obtain substantially equivalent materials by other means. In
104 ordering discovery of such materials, the court shall protect against disclosure of the
105 mental impressions, conclusions, opinions, or legal theories of an attorney or other
106 representative of a party.

107 (b)(5) Statement previously made about the action. A party may obtain without the
108 showing required in paragraph (b)(4) a statement concerning the action or its subject
109 matter previously made by that party. Upon request, a person not a party may obtain
110 without the required showing a statement about the action or its subject matter
111 previously made by that person. If the request is refused, the person may move for a
112 court order under Rule 37. A statement previously made is (A) a written statement
113 signed or approved by the person making it, or (B) a stenographic, mechanical,
114 electrical, or other recording, or a transcription thereof, which is a substantially verbatim
115 recital of an oral statement by the person making it and contemporaneously recorded.

116 (b)(6) Claims of Privilege or Protection of Trial Preparation Materials.

117 (b)(6)(A) Information withheld. If a party withholds discoverable information by
118 claiming that it is privileged or prepared in anticipation of litigation or for trial, the party
119 shall make the claim expressly and shall describe the nature of the documents,
120 communications, or things not produced in a manner that, without revealing the
121 information itself, will enable other parties to evaluate the claim.

122 (b)(6)(B) Information produced. If a party produces information that the party claims
123 is privileged or prepared in anticipation of litigation or for trial, the producing party may
124 notify any receiving party of the claim and the basis for it. After being notified, a
125 receiving party must promptly return, sequester, or destroy the specified information and
126 any copies it has and may not use or disclose the information until the claim is resolved.
127 A receiving party may promptly present the information to the court under seal for a
128 determination of the claim. If the receiving party disclosed the information before being
129 notified, it must take reasonable steps to retrieve it. The producing party must preserve
130 the information until the claim is resolved.

131 (c) Sequence and timing of discovery.

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

138 (c)(2) Extraordinary discovery. To obtain discovery beyond the limits established in
139 Paragraph (c)(1), a party shall file:

140 (c)(2)(A) before the close of standard discovery, a stipulation of extraordinary
141 discovery and a statement signed by the parties and attorneys that extraordinary
142 discovery is necessary and proportional under paragraph (b)(1) and that each party has
143 reviewed and approved a discovery budget; or

144 (c)(2)(B) before the close of the standard discovery and after reaching the limits of
145 standard discovery imposed by these rules, a motion for extraordinary discovery and a
146 statement signed by the party and attorney that the extraordinary discovery is
147 necessary and proportional under paragraph (b)(1) and that the party has reviewed and
148 approved a discovery budget.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

181 Advisory Committee Notes

182

1 **Rule 26A. Disclosure in domestic relations actions.**

2 (a) Scope. This rule applies to domestic relations actions, including divorce,
3 temporary separation, separate maintenance, parenting and modification. This rule
4 does not apply to adoptions, enforcement of prior orders, cohabitant abuse protective
5 orders, child protective orders and civil stalking injunctions.

6 (b) Time for disclosure. Without waiting for a discovery request, petitioner in all
7 domestic relations actions shall disclose to respondent the documents required in this
8 rule within 40 days after service of the petition unless respondent defaults or consents
9 to entry of the decree. The respondent shall disclose to petitioner the documents
10 required in this rule within 40 days after respondent's answer is due.

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 (c)(6) All statements for the 3 months before the petition was filed for all financial
30 accounts, including, but not limited to checking, savings, money market funds,
31 certificates of deposit, brokerage, investment, retirement, regardless of whether the

32 account has been closed including those held in that party's name, jointly with another
33 person or entity, or as a trustee or guardian, or in someone else's name on that party's
34 behalf.

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

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

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

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

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

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

53 Advisory Committee Notes

54

1 **Rule 29. Stipulations regarding disclosure and discovery procedure.**

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

9 Advisory Committee Notes

10

1 **Rule 30. Depositions upon oral questions.**

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

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

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

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

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

32 (b)(4) The notice to a party witness may be accompanied by a request under Rule
33 34 for the production of documents and tangible things at the deposition. The procedure
34 of Rule 34 shall apply to the request. The attendance of a nonparty witness may be
35 compelled by subpoena under Rule 45. Documents and tangible things to be produced
36 shall be stated in the subpoena.

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

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

46 (c) Examination and cross-examination; objections.

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

49 (c)(2) All objections shall be recorded, but the questioning shall proceed, and the
50 testimony taken subject to the objections. Any objection shall be stated concisely and in
51 a non-argumentative and non-suggestive manner. A person may instruct a witness not
52 to answer only to preserve a privilege, to enforce a limitation on evidence directed by
53 the court, or to present a motion for a protective order under Rule 26(c). Upon demand
54 of the objecting party or witness, the deposition shall be suspended for the time
55 necessary to make a motion. The party taking the deposition may complete or adjourn
56 the deposition before moving for an order to compel discovery under Rule 37.

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

61 (e) Submission to witness; changes; signing. Within 28 days after being notified by
62 the officer that the transcript or recording is available, a witness may sign a statement of

63 changes to the form or substance of the transcript or recording and the reasons for the
64 changes. The officer shall append any changes timely made by the witness.

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

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

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

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

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

88 (h) Deposition in action pending in another state. Any party to an action in another
89 state may take the deposition of any person within this state in the same manner and
90 subject to the same conditions and limitations as if such action were pending in this
91 state. Notice of the deposition shall be filed with the clerk of the court of the county in
92 which the person whose deposition is to be taken resides or is to be served. Matters

93 required to be submitted to the court shall be submitted to the court in the county where
94 the deposition is being taken.

95 Advisory Committee Notes

96

1 **Rule 31. Depositions upon written questions.**

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

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

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

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

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

19 Advisory Committee Notes

20

1 **Rule 33. Interrogatories to parties.**

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

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

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

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

23 Advisory Committee Notes

24

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

3 (a) Scope.

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

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

15 (b) Procedure and limitations.

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

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

32 (c) Form of documents and electronically stored information.

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

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

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

41 Advisory Committee Notes

42

1 **Rule 35. Physical and mental examination of persons.**

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

13 (b) Report. The party requesting the examination shall disclose a detailed written
14 report of the examiner, setting out the examiner's findings, including results of all tests
15 made, diagnoses and conclusions. If the party requesting the examination wishes to call
16 the examiner as a witness, the party shall disclose an expert report as required by Rule
17 26(a)(3).

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

22 **Advisory Committee Notes**

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

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

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

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

39 The committee is concerned about the rise of the so-called "professional witness" in
40 the area of medical examinations. This phenomenon is not limited to Utah. See, A
41 World of Hurt: Exams of Injured Workers Fuel Mutual Mistrust, By N. R. Kleinfield, New
42 York Times, April 4, 2009. The committee considered, but rejected, a proposal to
43 require a medical examiner to demonstrate a level of "independence" in order to qualify
44 for consideration as an examiner under Rule 35. This proposal was deemed impractical,
45 and the committee leaves such matters to the courts' discretion under the standards of
46 Rule 702, Utah Rules of Evidence.

47 Nevertheless, the committee recognizes that there is often nothing "independent"
48 about a Rule 35 examiner. Therefore, the trial court should refrain from the use of the
49 phrase "independent medical examiner," using instead the neutral appellation "medical
50 examiner," "Rule 35 examiner," or the like.

51 As noted, a major source of controversy has been requests by plaintiffs' counsel to
52 audio- or video-record examinations. We have heard reports of examiners claiming to
53 have performed certain procedures when they actually did not; examiners claiming to
54 have been told things by plaintiffs that the plaintiffs deny telling them; and claiming
55 responses to maneuvers that are later questioned by other examiners. Defense counsel
56 have typically objected to recording on the grounds that it stymies the free exchange of
57 information that the examination is designed to elicit.

58 The Committee has determined that the benefits of video recording generally
59 outweigh the downsides in a typical case. The new rule therefore provides that non-
60 obtrusive videotaping shall be permitted as a matter of course unless the person moving
61 for the examination demonstrates a clear potential for harm. See, *Boswell v. Schultz*,

62 173 P.3d 390, 394 (OK 2007) ("A video recording would be a superior method of
63 providing an impartial record of the physical examination.")

64 Nothing in the rule requires that the recording be conducted by a professional, and it
65 is not the intent of the committee that this extra cost should be necessary. The
66 committee also recognizes that videotaping will require the presence of a third party to
67 manage the camera, and notes that this may be an employee of counsel or a friend of
68 the person being examined, but must be done without interference and as unobtrusively
69 as possible.

70 In rare cases, the court may order that videotaping not be used. In these
71 circumstances, an audio recording may suffice to produce an independent record.

72 The former requirement of Rule 35(c) providing for the production of prior reports on
73 other examinees by the examiner was a source of great confusion and controversy.
74 This provision does not exist in the federal version of the rule, nor is the Committee
75 aware of any other similar state court rule. After much deliberation and discussion, it is
76 the Committee's view that this provision is better eliminated, and in the new rule there is
77 no longer an automatic requirement for the production of prior reports of other
78 examinations. Medical examiners will be treated as other expert witnesses are treated,
79 with the requirement of a report under Rule 26. The Committee notes that the use of
80 subpoenas to obtain prior reports remains an option for the practitioner in appropriate
81 circumstances.

82

1 **Rule 36. Request for admission.**

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

11 (b) Answer or objection.

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

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

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

27 (c) Sanctions for failure to admit. If a party fails to admit the truth of any discoverable
28 matter set forth in the request, and if the requesting party proves the truth of the matter,
29 the requesting party may move for an order requiring the other party to pay the
30 reasonable expenses of proving the matter, including reasonable attorney fees. The
31 court shall enter the order unless it finds that:

32 (c)(1) the request was held objectionable;

33 (c)(2) the admission sought was not substantially important;

34 (c)(3) the responding party had reason to believe the truth of the matter was a
35 genuine issue for trial; or

36 (c)(4) there were other good reasons for the failure to admit.

37 (d) Effect of admission. Any matter admitted under this rule is conclusively
38 established unless the court on motion permits withdrawal or amendment of the
39 admission. The court may permit withdrawal or amendment if the presentation of the
40 merits of the action will be promoted and withdrawal or amendment will not prejudice
41 the requesting party. Any admission under this rule is for the purpose of the pending
42 action only. It is not an admission for any other purpose, nor may it be used in any other
43 action.

44 Advisory Committee Notes

45

1 **Rule 37. Discovery and disclosure motions; Sanctions.**

2 (a) Motion for order compelling disclosure or discovery.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 (b) Motion for protective order.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

64 (e) Failure to comply with order.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

116 Advisory Committee Notes

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

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

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

131

Tab 3



Administrative Office of the Courts

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

MEMORANDUM

Daniel J. Becker
State Court Administrator
Myron K. March
Deputy Court Administrator

To: Civil Procedures Committee
From: Tim Shea *TS*
Date: June 15, 2010
Re: 10-Day Summons

The collections bar has started the campaign to retain the 10-day summons rule. I have attached a letter sent to Trystan. Someone has proposed a procedure that would permit a case to be initiated by first serving the complaint and summons, but the complaint would have to be filed by the close of the next business day.

I have attached amendments to Rules 3, 4, and 12 that would accomplish that result. The relevant amendment to Rule 3 is on lines 4 and 5. The relevant amendment to Rule 4 is on line 23.

Most of the rest of the amendments have already been agreed to as part of the simplification effort, although I had to reinstate some existing text, since the concept, under this proposal, is not completely eliminated.

BRYAN W. CANNON & ASSOCIATES

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June 11, 2010

Trystan B. Smith
SNOW, CHRISTENSEN, & MARTINEAU
10 Exchange Pl 11th FL
Salt Lake City, UT 84145

Subject: 10 Day Summons

Dear Mr. Smith:

Since we have had some contact with you through some subrogation cases we are taking the opportunity to write regarding an issue that is very important to us.

We are writing this letter regarding the possible change in the Rules of Civil Procedure regarding the 10 day summons. While we are sure you have been alerted as to the potential concerns that a collection practice like ours has regarding any change in the 10 day summons rule, we wanted to provide this commentary so that the issues and concerns are clear and can be expressed to your committee. Our collection practice and its clients have already been significantly impacted by the recent increases in court costs. Because the volume of filings in collection matters is so high, the associated costs with those filings have increased dramatically. An elimination of the option of a 10 day summons would only add to this impact. Presently, only those cases where service occurs are filed. There are many cases when service cannot be effectuated. We can avoid the filing fee on these matters when a Defendant cannot be located.

The result of the removal of the 10 day summons option would be that court costs would increase for our clients again. The burden of those court costs would eventually be passed to consumers. There would also be a huge increase in the number of other motions such as Motions to Extend Time for Service; hence, the courts could be flooded with an increase in complaints and motions.

In the present atmosphere there is a strong settlement possibility before the filing of suit. Defendants will often contact the collection firm to make settlement and the cost of filing and paperwork to the court is avoided. If we become a filing first state then the costs of service and filing will always be a factor in any settlement.

THIS OFFICE COLLECTS DEBTS AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

It appears that the discussion on removing the 10 day summons is being considered for administrative reasons. With the decrease in staffs the processing of the 10 day summons and answers coming in may be bogging down in some of the courts. It seems to us that removing an important tool for the collection firms for administrative reasons is not appropriate. It also appears to us that this administrative problem could be dealt with in ways other than eliminating the 10 day summons. Perhaps the time for an answer to a 10 day summons could be extended while retaining the requirement of filing a complaint within 10 days after service. We are sure there are other remedies to the administrative concerns that could be pursued rather than the removal of the 10 day summons altogether.

There is an interesting and important possibility that a change in this law could bring. Credit grantors provide credit most readily in states where the lending atmosphere is most favorable. It certainly may affect the standing of Utah as a favorable credit granting state if the costs of doing business (including the cost of collecting delinquent debt) increases. Hence, the removal of the 10 day summons may have an effect on lending in Utah.

We hope that you will seriously consider the points of this letter with your committee and we stand ready to respond to any questions that you may have. Feel free to contact us.

Very truly yours,


BRYAN W. CANNON


RANDY L. ROBINSON

BWC/RLR/cg

1 **Rule 3. Commencement of action.**

2 (a) How commenced. A civil action is commenced (1) by filing a complaint with the
3 court, or (2) by ~~service of serving~~ a summons together with a copy of the complaint in
4 accordance with Rule 4 ~~and filing the complaint and summons by the close of the next~~
5 ~~business day. If the action is commenced by the service of a summons and a copy of~~
6 ~~the complaint, then the complaint, the summons and proof of service, must be filed~~
7 ~~within ten days of such service.~~ If, in a case commenced under paragraph (a)(2) ~~of this~~
8 ~~rule~~, the complaint, ~~and~~ summons ~~and proof of service~~ are not timely filed ~~within ten~~
9 ~~days of service~~, the action ~~commenced~~ shall be deemed dismissed and the court shall
10 have no further jurisdiction thereof.

11 (b) Payment dishonored. If a check or other form of payment tendered as a filing fee
12 is dishonored, the party shall pay the fee by cash or cashier's check within 10 days after
13 notification by the court. Dishonor of a check or other form of payment does not affect
14 the validity of the filing, but may be grounds for such sanctions as the court deems
15 appropriate, which may include dismissal of the action and the award of costs and
16 attorney fees.

17 (c) Time of jurisdiction. The court shall have jurisdiction from the time of filing of the
18 complaint or service of the summons and a copy of the complaint.

19 Advisory Committee Notes

20 ~~Rule 3 constitutes a significant change from the prior rule. The rule retains service of~~
21 ~~the ten-day summons as one of two means to commence an action, but the rule~~
22 ~~requires that the summons together with a copy of the complaint be served on the~~
23 ~~defendant pursuant to Rule 4. In so doing, the rule eliminates the requirement that a~~
24 ~~copy of the complaint be deposited with the clerk for the defendant whose address is~~
25 ~~unknown. The changes in Rule 3 must be read and should be interpreted in conjunction~~
26 ~~with coordinate changes in Rule 4 and with a change in Rule 12(a) that begins the~~
27 ~~running of the defendant's 20-day response time from the service of the summons and~~
28 ~~complaint.~~

29 ~~Paragraph (a). This paragraph eliminates the requirement that a copy of the~~
30 ~~complaint be deposited with the clerk for the defendant whose address is unknown.~~

31 ~~Paragraph (b) of the former rule, which permitted the plaintiff to deposit copies of the~~

32 ~~complaint with the clerk for defendants not otherwise served with a copy at the time of~~
33 ~~the service of the summons, has also been eliminated. The rule requires, in effect, that~~
34 ~~both the summons and the complaint be served pursuant to Rule 4. Under a coordinate~~
35 ~~change in Rule 12(a), the defendant's time for answering or otherwise responding to the~~
36 ~~complaint does not begin to run until service of the summons and complaint pursuant to~~
37 ~~Rule 4.~~

38 Paragraph (b). ~~This paragraph is substantially identical to paragraph (c) of the~~
39 ~~former rule.~~

1 **Rule 4. Process.**

2 (a) Signing of summons. The summons shall be signed and issued by the plaintiff or
3 the plaintiff's attorney. Separate summonses may be signed and served.

4 (b)(i) Time of service. In an action commenced under Rule 3(a)(1), the summons
5 ~~together with and~~ a copy of the complaint shall be served no later than 120 days after
6 ~~the filing of~~ the complaint is filed unless the court allows a longer period of time for good
7 cause ~~shown~~. If the summons and complaint are not timely served, the action shall be
8 dismissed, without prejudice on application of any party or upon the court's own
9 initiative.

10 (b)(ii) In any action ~~brought~~ against two or more defendants, on which if service has
11 been timely ~~obtained~~ made upon one of them,

12 (b)(ii)(A) the plaintiff may proceed against those served, and

13 (b)(ii)(B) the others may be served or appear at any time ~~prior to~~ before trial.

14 (c) Contents of summons.

15 (c)(1) The summons shall contain the name of the court, the address of the court,
16 the names of the parties to the action, and the county in which it is brought. It shall be
17 directed to the defendant, state the name, address and telephone number of the
18 plaintiff's attorney, if any, and otherwise the plaintiff's address and telephone number. It
19 shall state the time within which the defendant ~~is required to~~ must answer the complaint
20 in writing, and shall notify the defendant that ~~in case of failure to do so,~~ judgment by
21 default will be ~~rendered~~ entered against the defendant for failure to answer the
22 complaint in writing. It shall state either that the complaint is on file with the court or that
23 the complaint will be filed with the court within one days of service.

24 ~~(c)(2) If the action is commenced under Rule 3(a)(2), the summons shall state that~~
25 ~~the defendant need not answer if the complaint is not filed within 10 days after service~~
26 ~~and shall state the telephone number of the clerk of the court where the defendant may~~
27 ~~call at least 13 days after service to determine if the complaint has been filed.~~

28 ~~(c)(3)-(c)(2)~~ If service is made by publication of the summons without the complaint,
29 the summons shall also briefly state the subject matter ~~and of the action,~~ the ~~sum of~~
30 ~~money or other~~ relief demanded, and that the complaint is on file with the court.

31 (d) Method of Service. Unless waived ~~in writing under paragraph (f)~~, service of the
32 summons and complaint shall be by one of the following methods:

33 (d)(1) Personal service. The summons and complaint may be served in any state or
34 judicial district of the United States by the sheriff or constable or by the deputy of either,
35 by a United States Marshal or by the marshal's deputy, or by ~~any other~~ person 18 years
36 of age or older at the time of service and not a party to the action or a party's attorney. ~~If~~
37 ~~the person to be served refuses to accept a copy of the process, service shall be~~
38 ~~sufficient if the person serving the same shall state the name of the process and offer to~~
39 ~~deliver a copy thereof.~~ Personal service shall be made as follows:

40 (d)(1)(A) Upon any individual other than one covered by ~~sub~~paragraphs (B), (C) or
41 (D) ~~below~~, by delivering a copy of the summons and ~~the~~ complaint to the individual
42 personally, or by ~~leaving a copy~~ delivering them to a person of suitable age and
43 discretion residing at the individual's dwelling ~~house or usual place of abode with some~~
44 ~~person of suitable age and discretion there residing~~, or by delivering ~~a copy of the~~
45 ~~summons and the complaint~~ them to an agent authorized by appointment or by law to
46 receive service of process;

47 (d)(1)(B) Upon ~~an infant (being a person under 14 years)~~ a minor, by delivering a
48 copy of the summons and ~~the~~ complaint to the infant minor and ~~also~~ to the infant's
49 father, mother minor's parent or guardian or, if none can be found within the state, then
50 to any person having the care and control of the infant minor, or with whom the infant
51 minor resides, ~~or in whose service the infant is employed~~;

52 (d)(1)(C) Upon ~~an individual a protected person~~ judicially declared ~~to be of unsound~~
53 ~~mind or incapable of conducting the person's own affairs~~ incapacitated, by delivering a
54 copy of the summons and ~~the~~ complaint to the protected person and to the person's
55 legal r epresentative i f o ne has been a ppointed and i n t he abs ence o f s uch
56 representative, to the individual, if any, who has care, custody or control of the person
57 guardian or conservator;

58 (d)(1)(D) Upon an individual incarcerated or committed at a facility operated by the
59 state or any of its political subdivisions, by delivering a copy of the summons and ~~the~~
60 complaint to the person's guardian or conservator, if one has been appointed, or to the
61 person who has the care, custody, or control of the individual to be served, or to that

62 person's designee ~~or to the guardian or conservator of the individual to be served if one~~
63 ~~has been appointed, who shall, in any case, promptly deliver the process to the~~
64 ~~individual served;~~

65 (d)(1)(E) Upon ~~any~~ corporation not ~~herein~~-otherwise provided for, upon a partnership
66 or upon an unincorporated association or business entity which is subject to suit under a
67 common name, by delivering a copy of the summons and ~~the~~-complaint to an officer, a
68 managing ~~or agent,~~ general agent, or other agent authorized by appointment or by law
69 to receive service of process and, if ~~the agent is one authorized by statute to receive~~
70 ~~service and the statute so requires,~~ required by law by also mailing a copy of the
71 summons and the complaint to the defendant entity and to any other person required by
72 statute to be served. If no such officer or agent can be found within the state, and the
73 defendant has, ~~or advertises or holds itself out as having,~~ an office or place of business
74 ~~within the state or elsewhere, or does business within this state or elsewhere,~~ then upon
75 the person in charge of such office or place of business;

76 (d)(1)(F) Upon an incorporated city or town, by delivering a copy of the summons
77 and ~~the~~-complaint to the recorder;

78 (d)(1)(G) Upon a county, by delivering a copy of the summons and ~~the~~-complaint to
79 the county clerk ~~of such county~~;

80 (d)(1)(H) Upon a school district or board of education, by delivering a copy of the
81 summons and ~~the~~-complaint to the superintendent or business administrator ~~of the~~
82 ~~board~~;

83 (d)(1)(I) Upon an irrigation or drainage district, by delivering a copy of the summons
84 and ~~the~~-complaint to the president or secretary ~~of its board~~;

85 (d)(1)(J) Upon the state of Utah, ~~in such cases as by law are authorized to be~~
86 ~~brought against the state,~~ by delivering a copy of the summons and ~~the~~-complaint to the
87 attorney general and any other person or agency required by statute to be served; and

88 (d)(1)(K) Upon a department or agency of the state of Utah, or upon any public
89 board, commission or body, ~~subject to suit,~~ by delivering a copy of the summons and
90 ~~the~~-complaint to any member of its governing board, or to its executive employee or
91 secretary.

92 (d)(1)(L) If the person to be served refuses to accept a copy of the process, service
93 is effective if the person serving the same states the name of the process and offers to
94 deliver it.

95 (d)(2) Service by mail or commercial courier service.

96 (d)(2)(A) The summons and complaint may be served upon an individual other than
97 one covered by paragraphs (d)(1)(B) or (d)(1)(C) by mail or commercial courier service
98 ~~in any state or judicial district of the United States provided if~~ the defendant signs a
99 document indicating receipt.

100 (d)(2)(B) The summons and complaint may be served upon an entity covered by
101 paragraphs (d)(1)(E) through (d)(1)(I) by mail or commercial courier service ~~in any state~~
102 ~~or judicial district of the United States provided if the~~ defendant's agent ~~authorized by~~
103 ~~appointment or by law to receive service of process~~ signs a document indicating receipt.

104 (d)(2)(C) Service by mail or commercial courier service ~~shall be~~ is complete on the
105 date the receipt is signed ~~as provided by this rule.~~

106 (d)(3) Service in a foreign country. Service of the summons and complaint in a
107 foreign country shall be made as follows:

108 (d)(3)(A) by any internationally agreed means reasonably calculated to give notice,
109 such as those means authorized by the Hague Convention on the Service Abroad of
110 Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents;

111 (d)(3)(B) if there is no internationally agreed means of service or the applicable
112 international agreement allows other means of service, provided that service is
113 reasonably calculated to give notice:

114 (d)(3)(B)(i) in the manner prescribed by the law of the foreign country for service in
115 that country in an action in any of its courts of general jurisdiction;

116 (d)(3)(B)(ii) as directed by the foreign authority in response to a letter rogatory or
117 letter of request; or

118 (d)(3)(B)(iii) unless prohibited by the law of the foreign country, by delivery to the
119 individual personally ~~of a copy of the summons and the complaint~~ or by any form of mail
120 requiring a signed receipt, to be addressed and dispatched by the clerk of the court to
121 the party to be served; or

122 (d)(3)(C) by other means not prohibited by international agreement as may be
123 directed by the court.

124 (d)(4) Other service.

125 (d)(4)(A) ~~Where the identity or whereabouts of~~ If the person to be served ~~are~~
126 ~~unknown and cannot be ascertained~~ cannot be served through reasonable diligence,
127 ~~where or if~~ service upon all of the ~~individual~~ parties is impracticable under the
128 circumstances, ~~or where there exists good cause to believe that the person to be served~~
129 ~~is avoiding service of process~~, the party seeking service ~~of process~~ may file a motion
130 supported by affidavit requesting an order allowing service by ~~publication or by some~~
131 other means. The supporting affidavit shall set forth the efforts made to identify, locate
132 or serve the party ~~to be served~~, or the circumstances which make it impracticable to
133 serve all of the ~~individual~~ parties.

134 (d)(4)(B) If the motion is granted, the court shall order service ~~of process by~~
135 ~~publication or~~ by other means, ~~provided that the means of notice employed shall be~~
136 reasonably calculated, under all the circumstances, to ~~apprise~~ notify the ~~interested~~
137 ~~parties of the pendency~~ party of the action ~~to the extent reasonably possible or~~
138 ~~practicable~~. The ~~court's~~ order shall ~~also~~ specify the content of the process to be served
139 and the event ~~or events as of which~~ that constitutes completion of service ~~shall be~~
140 ~~deemed complete~~. ~~Unless service is by publication, a copy of the court's order shall be~~
141 ~~served upon the defendant with the process specified by the court.~~

142 (d)(4)(C) ~~In any proceeding where summons is required to be published, the court~~
143 ~~shall, upon the request of the party applying for publication, designate the newspaper in~~
144 ~~which publication shall be made. The newspaper selected shall be a newspaper of~~
145 ~~general circulation in the county where such publication is required to be made and~~
146 ~~shall be published in the English language.~~

147 (e) Proof of Service.

148 (e)(1) ~~If service is not waived, the~~ The person effecting service shall file proof with
149 the court. The proof of service must state the date, place, and manner of service. Proof
150 of service made pursuant to paragraph (d)(2) shall include a receipt signed by the
151 defendant or defendant's agent ~~authorized by appointment or by law to receive service~~
152 ~~of process~~. If service is made by a person other than by an attorney, the sheriff or

153 constable, or by the deputy of either, by a United States Marshal or by the marshal's
154 deputy, the proof of service shall be made by affidavit.

155 (e)(2) Proof of service in a foreign country shall be made as ~~prescribed~~ provided in
156 these rules ~~for service within this state~~, or by the law of the foreign country, or by order
157 of the court. ~~When service is made pursuant to paragraph (d)(3)(C), proof~~ Proof of
158 service under paragraph (d)(3)(B)(iii) shall include a receipt signed by the addressee or
159 other evidence of delivery to the addressee satisfactory to the court.

160 (e)(3) Failure to make proof of service does not affect the validity of the service. The
161 court may allow proof of service to be amended.

162 (f) Waiver of Service; Payment of Costs for Refusing to Waive.

163 (f)(1) A plaintiff may request a ~~defendant subject to service under paragraph (d)~~
164 person other than a minor or a protected person to waive service of ~~a the~~ summons and
165 complaint. The request to waive service and the summons and complaint shall be
166 mailed, e-mailed or delivered to the person upon whom service is authorized under
167 paragraph (d). ~~It shall include a copy of the complaint, The request~~ shall allow the
168 defendant at least 20-21 days from the date on which the request is sent to return the
169 waiver, or 30-28 days if addressed to a defendant person outside of the United States,
170 and shall be substantially in the form of the Notice of Lawsuit and Request for Waiver of
171 Service of Summons set forth in the Appendix of Forms attached to these rules.

172 (f)(2) A defendant who timely returns a waiver ~~is not required to~~ must respond to the
173 complaint ~~until 45~~ within 42 days after the date on which the request for waiver of
174 service was mailed, e-mailed or delivered ~~to the defendant~~, or 60-56 days after that date
175 if addressed to a defendant person outside of the United States.

176 (f)(3) A defendant who waives service of ~~a the~~ summons and complaint does not
177 thereby make any other waiver ~~any objection to venue or to the jurisdiction of the court~~
178 over the defendant.

179 (f)(4) If a defendant person refuses a request for waiver of service ~~submitted in~~
180 ~~accordance with~~ made according this rule, the court shall impose upon the defendant
181 the costs subsequently incurred in effecting service.

182 Advisory Committee Notes

183

1 **Rule 12. Defenses and objections.**

2 (a) When presented. Unless otherwise provided by statute or order of the court, a
3 defendant shall serve an answer within twenty days after the service of the summons
4 and complaint is complete within the state and within thirty days after service of the
5 summons and complaint is complete outside the state. In an action commenced under
6 Rule 3(a)(2), a defendant shall serve an answer within 21 days after the service of the
7 summons and complaint is complete within the state and within 31 days after service of
8 the summons and complaint is complete outside the state. A party served with a
9 pleading stating a cross-claim shall serve an answer thereto within twenty days after the
10 service. The plaintiff shall serve a reply to a counterclaim in the answer within twenty
11 days after service of the answer or, if a reply is ordered by the court, within twenty days
12 after service of the order, unless the order otherwise directs. The service of a motion
13 under this rule alters these periods of time as follows, unless a different time is fixed by
14 order of the court, but a motion directed to fewer than all of the claims in a pleading
15 does not affect the time for responding to the remaining claims:

16 (a)(1) If the court denies the motion or postpones its disposition until the trial on the
17 merits, the responsive pleading shall be served within ten days after notice of the court's
18 action;

19 (a)(2) If the court grants a motion for a more definite statement, the responsive
20 pleading shall be served within ten days after the service of the more definite statement.

21 (b) How presented. Every defense, in law or fact, to claim for relief in any pleading,
22 whether a claim, counterclaim, cross-claim, or third-party claim, shall be asserted in the
23 responsive pleading thereto if one is required, except that the following defenses may at
24 the option of the pleader be made by motion: (1) lack of jurisdiction over the subject
25 matter, (2) lack of jurisdiction over the person, (3) improper venue, (4) insufficiency of
26 process, (5) insufficiency of service of process, (6) failure to state a claim upon which
27 relief can be granted, (7) failure to join an indispensable party. A motion making any of
28 these defenses shall be made before pleading if a further pleading is permitted. No
29 defense or objection is waived by being joined with one or more other defenses or
30 objections in a responsive pleading or motion or by further pleading after the denial of
31 such motion or objection. If a pleading sets forth a claim for relief to which the adverse

32 party is not required to serve a responsive pleading, the adverse party may assert at the
33 trial any defense in law or fact to that claim for relief. If, on a motion as seting the
34 defense numbered (6) to dismiss for failure of the pleading to state a claim upon which
35 relief can be granted, matters outside the pleading are presented to and not excluded
36 by the court, the motion shall be treated as one for summary judgment and disposed of
37 as provided in Rule 56, and all parties shall be given reasonable opportunity to present
38 all material made pertinent to such a motion by Rule 56.

39 (c) Motion for judgment on the pleadings. After the pleadings are closed but within
40 such time as not to delay the trial, any party may move for judgment on the pleadings.
41 If, on a motion for judgment on the pleadings, matters outside the pleadings are
42 presented to and not excluded by the court, the motion shall be treated as one for
43 summary judgment and disposed of as provided in Rule 56, and all parties shall be
44 given reasonable opportunity to present all material made pertinent to such a motion by
45 Rule 56.

46 (d) Preliminary hearings. The defenses specifically enumerated (1)-(7) in subdivision
47 (b) of this rule, whether made in a pleading or by motion, and the motion for judgment
48 mentioned in subdivision (c) of this rule shall be heard and determined before trial on
49 application of any party, unless the court orders that the hearings and determination
50 thereof be deferred until the trial.

51 (e) Motion for more definite statement. If a pleading to which a responsive pleading
52 is permitted is so vague or ambiguous that a party cannot reasonably be required to
53 frame a responsive pleading, the party may move for a more definite statement before
54 interposing a responsive pleading. The motion shall point out the defects complained of
55 and the details desired. If the motion is granted and the order of the court is not obeyed
56 within ten days after notice of the order or within such other time as the court may fix,
57 the court may strike the pleading to which the motion was directed or make such order
58 as it deems just.

59 (f) Motion to strike. Upon motion made by a party before responding to a pleading or,
60 if no responsive pleading is permitted by these rules, upon motion made by a party
61 within twenty days after the service of the pleading, the court may order stricken from

62 any pleading any insufficient defense or any redundant, immaterial, impertinent, or
63 scandalous matter.

64 (g) Consolidation of defenses. A party who makes a motion under this rule may join
65 with it the other motions herein provided for and then available. If a party makes a
66 motion under this rule and does not include therein all defenses and objections then
67 available which this rule permits to be raised by motion, the party shall not thereafter
68 make a motion based on any of the defenses or objections so omitted, except as
69 provided in subdivision (h) of this rule.

70 (h) Waiver of defenses. A party waives all defenses and objections not presented
71 either by motion or by answer or reply, except (1) that the defense of failure to state a
72 claim upon which relief can be granted, the defense of failure to join an indispensable
73 party, and the objection of failure to state a legal defense to a claim may also be made
74 by a later pleading, if one is permitted, or by motion for judgment on the pleadings or at
75 the trial on the merits, and except (2) that, whenever it appears by suggestion of the
76 parties or otherwise that the court lacks jurisdiction of the subject matter, the court shall
77 dismiss the action. The objection or defense, if made at the trial, shall be disposed of as
78 provided in Rule 15(b) in the light of any evidence that may have been received.

79 (i) Pleading after denial of a motion. The filing of a responsive pleading after the
80 denial of any motion made pursuant to these rules shall not be deemed a waiver of such
81 motion.

82 (j) Security for costs of a nonresident plaintiff. When the plaintiff in an action resides
83 out of this state, or is a foreign corporation, the defendant may file a motion to require
84 the plaintiff to furnish security for costs and charges which may be awarded against
85 such plaintiff. Upon hearing and determination by the court of the reasonable necessity
86 therefor, the court shall order the plaintiff to file a \$ 300.00 undertaking with sufficient
87 sureties as security for payment of such costs and charges as may be awarded against
88 such plaintiff. No security shall be required of any officer, instrumentality, or agency of
89 the United States.

90 (k) Effect of failure to file undertaking. If the plaintiff fails to file the undertaking as
91 ordered within 30 days of the service of the order, the court shall, upon motion of the
92 defendant, enter an order dismissing the action.

