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AT SEATTLE
CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
BY DEPUTY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

IN RE:	)	
	)	
DISCOVERY PROCEDURES	)	GENERAL ORDER
	)	
	)	

Extensive revisions to Rules 26 through 37 and to Rule 16 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure took effect December 1, 1993. Those rules authorize district courts to adopt discovery procedures which differ from certain provisions of the newly amended Federal Rules.

This court, through its local rules committee, and with the participation of the bar, is examining whether and in what respects this court should adopt such different local rules. This general order will foster the orderly conduct of civil litigation while that work is in progress. This order supersedes the general order entered November 30, 1993.

Pending further order of the court, it is hereby ordered that:

(1) "Initial Disclosures." The provisions of Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1) shall not apply in this district.

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(2) Reports by Experts. The parties shall not be required to furnish copies of written reports of experts described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(B). Other disclosures made pursuant to this rule are to be served upon other parties, but not filed with the court.

(3) Lists of Trial Witnesses and Exhibits. The parties shall provide the disclosures described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(3), but shall do so in accordance with the schedule prescribed by Local Rule CR 16(h) and (i), not the schedule specified in the Federal Rule. Disclosures made pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(3) are to be served upon other parties, but not filed with the court, except by lodging of the pretrial order as required by local rule CR 16.

(4) Preliminary Meeting of Parties. The parties may, but are not required to, conduct a preliminary meeting as described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f).

(5) Commencement of Discovery. The limitation in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(d) upon the commencement of discovery shall not apply.

(6) Number of Depositions. The limitation in Fed. R. Civ. P. 30(a)(2)(A) on the number of depositions shall not apply.

(7) Number of Interrogatories. Fed. R. Civ. P. 33(a) sets a limit of 25 interrogatories. In lieu of that limitation, the provisions of local rule CR 33(d)(1) shall apply, limiting each party to 35 interrogatories.

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(8) Scheduling Orders. United States magistrate judges are authorized to enter or modify scheduling orders described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b).

(9) Same Rules Apply to All Cases. The same rules shall apply to cases filed before December 1, 1993, and to cases filed after that date.

(10) Orders in Specific Cases. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the judge presiding in any case may order that any or all of the provisions of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, as amended, shall apply in that case.

DATED this 18 day of January, 1994.

Barbara J. Rothstein
Chief United States District Judge

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