

United States District Court
Western District of Washington
At Seattle

Honorable James L. Robart

Updated April 6, 2009

MOTIONS FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT

Judge Robart will deny motions for default judgment that do not provide sufficient information for the court to enter judgment. Plaintiffs should be guided by the following considerations when preparing motions for default judgment:

1. Plaintiffs shall comply with Local Rules W.D. Wash. CR 55.
2. Plaintiffs shall support a motion for default judgment with a declaration.
3. Plaintiffs shall separately state the amounts owing on the principal claim, liquidated damages (if applicable), pre- and postjudgment interest on the principal claim (if applicable), and reasonable attorney's fees (if applicable).
4. Plaintiffs shall provide a concise explanation of how all amounts were calculated. If the court is not certain about how a particular amount was calculated, the court will not award that amount.
5. Plaintiffs shall provide evidence establishing the amount of the principal claim. If the claim is based on one or more contracts, the relevant portion(s) of the contract(s) shall be attached to the declaration. If further information is required to determine the amount of the principal claim (e.g., the number of hours worked under an employment contract), Plaintiffs shall provide that information.
6. If Plaintiffs seek liquidated damages, Plaintiffs shall provide evidence establishing an entitlement to liquidated damages and any other information needed to determine the amount of liquidated damages.
7. If an interest rate other than that provided by 28 U.S.C. § 1961 applies, Plaintiffs shall state the rate and the reasons for applying it.

8. Plaintiffs shall include all interest calculations in the motion for default judgment. For prejudgment interest, Plaintiffs shall state the date on which prejudgment interest began to accrue and the basis for selecting that date.
9. If Plaintiffs seek attorney's fees, Plaintiffs must state the basis for attorney's fees and must include a declaration from Plaintiffs' counsel establishing the reasonable amount of fees to be awarded.