

315TH DISTRICT COURT DISCOVERY POLICY

Jury Trial - Pre-Trial Conferences

Scheduled at least two weeks prior to jury selection.

Evidence and discovery addressed

Provide briefs or memos for contested matters 10 days prior to pre-trial conference settings

Discovery Hearing Docket

Discovery matters will be heard in the 315th District Court on Tuesdays at 1:30 PM or Fridays at 9:00 AM.

Certificates of Conference

All counsel are expected to engage in good faith negotiations pursuant to the discovery and deposition rules of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure and the Harris County Local Rules - Family Trial Division.

Requests for hearings on motions for discovery, or for protection, or to quash interrogatories or requests for admissions or on objections to any discovery, will not be granted unless counsel filing the same certifies that he/she has attempted to obtain such discovery or relief from opposing counsel by agreement and has been unsuccessful and identifies the basis of disagreement between counsel. If counsel has not been able to confer, he/she must state in detail all efforts made to confer, including dates and methods of attempted communication.

To that end, all contested discovery motions shall contain a certificate of conference by the party or counsel filing same substantially as follows:

"A conference was held on [date] with [name of opposing counsel] on the merits of this motion. Agreement could not be reached on the following issues: [state basis of disagreement between counsel]."

OR

"A conference was not held with [name of opposing counsel] on the merits of this motion because [state in detail all efforts made to confer, including all dates and methods of attempted communication]."

See Harris County Local Rule 5.1.2.

Failure to Comply

No opposed discovery motion shall be set for hearing or heard unless it contains such certificate, signed by counsel or self-represented party. *See* Harris County Local Rule 5.1.3.

Failure to strictly comply with Harris County Local Rule 5.1.2 may be grounds for denying an award of attorney's fees or other sanction sought by the moving party.

Disputed Discovery Must Be Attached or Included in Motion

All motions to compel, motions for discovery sanctions, and requests for rulings on discovery objections, shall set out within the body of the motion, or attach as exhibits, the interrogatory or request which is in dispute, and the objection and answer or response which is in dispute, so that all matters necessary for the Court's consideration are set out in one concise document.