

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

Administrative Order 96-26

IN RE:

**Adoption of Pilot Program Imposing
Six Hour Limitation On Depositions
Absent Court Order Or Agreement Of
The Parties And Non-Party Witness**

FILED BY T. R. D. D.C.
96 JUN 17 PM 3:56
CARLOS JUENKE
CLERK U.S. DIST. CT.
S.D. OF FLA.-MIAMI

The Court was recently made aware of a local rule in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia limiting to six hours depositions in civil cases. As part of the Court's continuing efforts to reduce delay and expense in civil matters, the Court asked the Federal Judicial Bar & Community Liaison Committee and the Advisory Committee on Rules and Procedures to consider whether the Court should consider a similar limitation. Both committees have recommended that the Court implement a pilot program, limiting depositions to six hours absent court order or agreement of the parties and any affected non-party witness. Upon consideration of these recommendations, it is hereby

ORDERED that in all civil actions commenced on or after July 1, 1996, unless otherwise ordered by the Court or agreed to by all parties and, with respect to depositions of non-party witnesses, as agreed to by the non-party witness, no deposition of any party or witness shall last more than six (6) hours. This Administrative Order shall remain in effect through December 31, 1997.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, to insure litigants are made aware of this Administrative Order, the Clerk of the Court, until July 31, 1996, shall provide a copy of this Administrative Order to each person filing papers in any civil action in this Court and shall have a notice of this Administrative Order's entry, containing a summary of its terms, published in the Daily Business Review's Miami, Broward and Palm Beach editions at least once a week for the next four weeks.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Advisory Committee on Rules and Procedures obtain input from parties and attorneys on their experiences with this Administrative Order so the Committee is in a position to recommend to the Court whether the six hour limitation on depositions should be adopted as a local rule.

DONE AND ORDERED in chambers at the United States Federal Building and Courthouse, 299 East Broward Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, Florida this 17 day of June, 1996.



NORMAN C. ROETTGER
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

cc: Honorable Gerald B. Tjoflat, Chief Judge, Eleventh Circuit
All Southern District Judges and Magistrate Judges
Norman E. Zoller, Circuit Executive, Eleventh Circuit
All Members of the Advisory Committee on Local Rules and
Procedures
Brian F. Spector, Esq.
Carlos Juenke, Court Administrator/Clerk of Court
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