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From: JONATHAN RUDNICK <jonr@jonrudlaw.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 7:22 AM
To: Comments Mailbox
Cc: JONATHAN RUDNICK
Subject: [External]REMOTE PROCEEDINGS: DEPOSITION ISSUES

Importance: High

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Dear Judge Grant:

I have reviewed the July 16, 2021 order.

However, in my opinion, the order needs to address the depositions pursuant to the court rules. This is becoming a real issue where one of the attorneys wants to produce a witness by way of a video and the other attorney is objecting. I have had at least one instance where we needed to conduct a conference with the court, and the court provided some guidance in this issue. However, there needs to be some official declaration/order from the court regarding the taking of depositions by way of video.

In my opinion if one of the parties does not want to produce their witness, in person, this request should be accommodated. Generally, I have found in almost all cases including document intensive cases that video depositions are extremely effective, require better preparation and reduce travel time and expenses.

Further, the technology used (Zoom or Microsoft teams) actually made for a more effective deposition with the use of the available technology.

Plus, with the new Delta Variant, and high-risk exposure for those with pre-existing conditions there needs to be some method to take this into consideration in all of the above.

In my opinion, the transition to virtual courts/presentations/hearings has been a welcome change.

These changes should be a starting point in moving forward as I can tell you from personal experience is increased the efficiency of my practice significantly.

It has been easier to serve my clients with the time saved from not having to appear in court, travel to court and the other related time investments, and actual appearances.

I have been a lawyer for 30 years, have always been a big fan of technology and I think we should take advantage of the opportunity to move the court system forward by decades.

Thanks

Jonathan Rudnick
The Law Office of Jonathan Rudnick LLC
788 Shrewsbury Ave, Suite 204
Tinton Falls NJ 07724
Phone 732 842 2070

Fax 732 879 0213

www.consumer-attorney.com

Jonr@jonrudlaw.com