

From: [Alexander W. Ross, Jr.](#)
To: [Comments Mailbox](#)
Subject: [External] Changes to Arbitration Rules
Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 1:33:16 PM

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Dear Arbitration Administrator:

I object to the proposed Rule change that requires an Arbitration Statement to be limited to five (5) pages with an index of 35 pages. Some cases are quite complex, have many witnesses with transcripts in lieu of in-person testimony, numerous documents as exhibits and multiple experts (whose reports may themselves exceed 20 pages), and have taken well over a year in discovery, and cannot be adequately summarized in five pages.

This is especially true of defendants in personal injury cases, where the plaintiff may have multiple prior injuries which require full explanation and medical documents to be attached.

A short, five page statement unfairly favors the plaintiff, who would like to have the panel ignore long-standing prior injuries or chronic conditions.

Therefore, parties should be able to provide Arbitration Statements as lengthy as necessary; defendant clients may otherwise legitimately ask why so much time and effort was put into discovery, when it was not even included in the Arbitration Statement, due to some artificial limit.

Very often arbitrations are perfunctory, lasting only 30 minutes and the Arbitrators have clearly not read every document, but it is the duty of the attorney to present the evidence which the attorney believes is required. If the Arbitrators choose not to read it, that's up to them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Alex Ross.

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