

IN THE STATE COURT OF FULTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

STANDING CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER
FOR ALL DIVISION L (JUDGE SMITH) E-FILED CASES

Having found that the interests of the parties and the orderly management of the Court's business would be served by setting a schedule for this litigation and by stating the practices and procedures of this Court,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, unless specifically exempted, counsel for all parties and *pro se* litigants confer, in person or by telephone, in an effort to settle the case, discuss discovery, limit issues, and discuss other matters addressed by the Case Management Order. This early planning conference shall be held *no later than thirty (30) days after the appearance of defendant(s) by answer, or an answer filed by an uninsured motorist carrier*. Counsel for the plaintiff(s) shall ensure that this early planning conference is timely scheduled and completed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, unless the case is specifically exempted by the Court or successfully resolved during the early planning conference, the parties are required to complete and file one of the attached Consent Case Management Orders ("Order A" for Wrongful Death/Medical Malpractice/Complex Cases; "Order B" for all other cases) for the Court's review *no later than forty-five (45) days after the appearance of defendant(s) by answer*. The proposed Case Management Order shall be consolidated and filed by counsel for the plaintiff(s).

If a party fails or refuses to participate in the early planning conference and/or completion of the proposed Case Management Order, counsel for the plaintiff(s) shall so indicate when filing the proposed Case Management Order. If the parties fail to reach an agreement on portions of the proposed Case Management Order, each party's position shall be included in the proposed Case Management Order with a notation in **bold** that the parties failed to reach agreement on that portion

and an explanation of the reasons for such disagreement.

A party's failure to comply with the terms of this Standing Order may result in sanctions, including but not limited to dismissal of the complaint or striking of the answer, as appropriate.

SO ORDERED this 22nd day of June, 2026.



Judge Torrey D. Smith
State Court of Fulton County

**IN THE STATE COURT OF FULTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA**

	)	
	)	
Plaintiff(s),	)	
	)	
v.	)	Civil Action No. _____
	)	
	)	
	)	
Defendant(s).	)	
	)	
	)	

CONSENT CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER "A"

(MEDICAL MALPRACTICE/WRONGFUL DEATH/COMPLEX CASE)

Pursuant to Judge Smith's Standing Case Management Order, the parties conducted an early planning conference on _____, with the following counsel (and/or *pro se* parties) in attendance:¹

For Plaintiff(s):

For Defendant(s)

Parties not in attendance: _____

The parties having conferred in an effort to settle the case, discuss discovery, limit issues, and discuss other matters addressed in this Case Management Order as required by the Court's Standing Case Management Order, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** as follows:

¹ Please also provide those parties (with answers on file) who failed to attend the early planning conference.

1.

DISCOVERY shall close NO LATER THAN **9 MONTHS** after the last answer is filed, which date is _____. (This includes, but is not limited to, written discovery and depositions).

2.

EXPERT DISCOVERY shall be completed according to the following schedule:

- PLAINTIFF EXPERT(S) shall be disclosed NO LATER THAN _____.
- DEFENSE EXPERT(S) shall be disclosed NO LATER THAN _____.
- REBUTTAL EXPERT(S) shall be disclosed NO LATER THAN _____
for PLAINTIFF and _____ for DEFENSE.
- ALL EXPERTS shall be deposed NO LATER THAN _____.
- ALL WITNESSES shall be deposed NO LATER THAN _____.

3.

ALL **PRELIMINARY MOTIONS**, including, but not limited to, motions to dismiss, motions regarding venue, service, statute of limitations, or motions to add parties, shall be filed NO LATER THAN _____, absent Court Order (which shall be no later than 60 days after the entry of this Order).

4.

All other **SUBSTANTIVE MOTIONS**, including motions for summary judgment, and DAUBERT MOTIONS shall be filed NO LATER THAN _____ (which shall be no later than 45 days after the close of discovery).

5.

MEDIATION shall be scheduled and completed NO LATER THAN _____.

(which shall be no later than 90 days after the close of discovery). Counsel and all parties, or their representatives, are to appear and participate in good faith in this mediation. Attendance by an attorney or other representative who has full authority to settle all issues in the action is REQUIRED. If the client has not given such authorization to counsel, the client must also appear.

6.

TRIAL BY JURY shall be set by the Court's placement of the case on the Court's Civil Jury Trial calendar at the first available calendar after the Court's ruling on any dispositive and/or *Daubert* motions. If there are no dispositive and/or *Daubert* motions filed, the case shall be set on the first available Jury Trial Calendar. To request a special setting, the parties shall contact the Court's Staff Attorney and state the basis for the request no later than the close of discovery.

7.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the following PRACTICES and PROCEDURES govern the above-styled case:

- (a) EXTENSIONS – There shall be no extensions of these deadlines by agreement of the parties. Any extension of time to file a motion must be made by Order of this Court. If any motion is filed after these deadlines and without this Court's prior written approval by Order, then the motion will be untimely and may not be considered.
- (b) REPLY BRIEFS – Absent prior permission by the Court, no party shall file any reply briefs, which are generally disfavored.
- (c) DISCOVERY DISPUTES – In addition to the obligations set forth by USCR 6.4(B), the parties shall meet and confer in a good faith effort to resolve any discovery disputes and, in the event the parties are unable to resolve the disputes, contact the Court's Staff Attorney to request a status conference with the Court, **prior to filing any discovery motion**. The

Court will schedule a Zoom hearing, if appropriate, or instruct the parties to brief the matter.

- (d) COMMUNICATION WITH THE COURT – The parties may contact the Court’s Staff Attorney, Jared Casto, at (404) 612-2292 or jared.casto@fultoncountyga.gov, to inquire regarding any procedural issue (scheduling, case status, Court requirements, etc.) and/or to arrange a status conference or hearing. Unless instructed by the Court, the parties shall not submit letter briefs (including substantive emails addressing the merits) or “carbon copy” the Court on correspondence between the parties and addressing the merits.
- (e) PROPOSED ORDERS and COURTESY COPIES – The parties shall e-file proposed orders through eFileGA, and any courtesy copies of proposed orders (if requested) shall be emailed to the Court’s Staff Attorney in Word format. The parties are discouraged from submitting a courtesy copy of briefs to the Court, unless specifically requested. The parties, however, may contact the Court’s Staff Attorney regarding any consent/joint filings or other filings necessitating prompt action by the Court.
- (f) ORIGINAL DEPOSITION TRANSCRIPTS – The parties shall e-file scanned copies in lieu of original deposition transcripts and retain original deposition transcripts until specifically requested by the Court or trial.

8.

The failure to comply with the deadlines set forth in this Case Management Order may result in the imposition of sanctions, including striking pleadings, assessment of attorney's fees, exclusion of evidence or witnesses, or other sanctions.

SO ORDERED, this ____ day of _____, 20____.

Plaintiff's Counsel

Defendant's Counsel

Judge Torrey D. Smith
State Court of Fulton County

**IN THE STATE COURT OF FULTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA**

	)	
	)	
Plaintiff(s),	)	
	)	
v.	)	Civil Action No. _____
	)	
	)	
	)	
Defendant(s).	)	
	)	
	)	

CONSENT CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER "B"

(NON-SPECIFIC/GENERAL CASES)

Pursuant to Judge Smith's Standing Case Management Order, the parties conducted an early planning conference on _____, with the following counsel (and/or *pro se* parties) in attendance:²

For Plaintiff(s):

For Defendant(s)

Parties not in attendance: _____

The parties having conferred in an effort to settle the case, discuss discovery, limit issues, and discuss other matters addressed in this Case Management Order as required by the Court's Standing Case Management Order, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** as follows:

² Please also provide those parties (with answers on file) who failed to attend the early planning conference.

9.

DISCOVERY shall close NO LATER THAN **6 MONTHS** after the last answer is filed, which date is _____. ALL discovery shall be **COMPLETED BY THIS DATE** including, but not limited to: identification of, written discovery from, and depositions from BOTH fact and expert witnesses.

10.

ALL **PRELIMINARY MOTIONS**, including, but not limited to, motions to dismiss, motions regarding venue, service, statute of limitations, or motions to add parties, shall be filed NO LATER THAN _____, absent Court Order. (No later than 60 days after the entry of this Order).

11.

All other **SUBSTANTIVE MOTIONS**, including motions for summary judgment, and DAUBERT MOTIONS shall be filed NO LATER THAN _____ (which shall be no later than 30 days after the close of discovery).

12.

MEDIATION shall be scheduled and completed NO LATER THAN _____ (which shall be no later than 90 days after the close of discovery). Counsel and all parties, or their representatives, are to appear and participate in good faith in this mediation. Attendance by an attorney or other representative who has full authority to settle all issues in the action is REQUIRED. If the client has not given such authorization to counsel, the client must also appear.

13.

TRIAL BY JURY shall be set by the Court's placement of the case on the Court's Civil Jury Trial calendar at the first available calendar after the Court's ruling on any dispositive and/or *Daubert*

motions. If there are no dispositive and/or *Daubert* motions filed, the case shall be set on the first available Jury Trial Calendar. To request a special setting, the parties shall contact the Court's Staff Attorney and state the basis for the request no later than the close of discovery.

14.

IT IS FURTHER ORDER that the following PRACTICES and PROCEDURES govern the above-styled case:

- (g) EXTENSIONS – There shall be no extensions of these deadlines by agreement of the parties. Any extension of time to file a motion must be made by Order of this Court. If any motion is filed after these deadlines and without this Court's prior written approval by Order, then the motion will be untimely and may not be considered.
- (h) REPLY BRIEFS – Absent prior permission by the Court, no party shall file any reply briefs, which are generally disfavored.
- (i) DISCOVERY DISPUTES – In addition to the obligations set forth by USCR 6.4(B), the parties shall meet and confer in a good faith effort to resolve any discovery disputes and, in the event the parties are unable to resolve the disputes, contact the Court's Staff Attorney to request a status conference with the Court, **prior to filing any discovery motion**. The Court will schedule a Zoom hearing, if appropriate, or instruct the parties to brief the matter.
- (j) COMMUNICATION WITH THE COURT – The parties may contact the Court's Staff Attorney, Jared Casto, at (404) 612-2292 or jared.casto@fultoncountyga.gov, to inquire regarding any procedural issue (scheduling, case status, Court requirements, etc.) and/or to arrange a status conference or hearing. Unless instructed by the Court, the parties shall not submit letter briefs (including substantive emails addressing the merits) or “carbon copy”

the Court on correspondence between the parties and addressing the merits.

- (k) PROPOSED ORDERS and COURTESY COPIES – The parties shall e-file proposed orders through eFileGA, and any courtesy copies of proposed orders (if requested) shall be emailed to the Court's Staff Attorney in Word format. The parties are discouraged from submitting a courtesy copy of briefs to the Court, unless specifically requested. The parties, however, may contact the Court's Staff Attorney regarding any consent/joint filings or other filings necessitating prompt action by the Court.
- (l) ORIGINAL DEPOSITION TRANSCRIPTS – The parties shall e-file scanned copies in lieu of original deposition transcripts and retain original deposition transcripts until specifically requested by the Court or trial.

15.

The failure to comply with the deadlines set forth in this Case Management Order may result in the imposition of sanctions, including striking pleadings, assessment of attorney's fees, exclusion of evidence or witnesses, or other sanctions.

SO ORDERED, this ____ day of _____, 20__.

Plaintiff's Counsel

Defendant's Counsel

Judge Torrey D. Smith
State Court of Fulton County