

IN THE STATE COURT OF FULTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

PRELIMINARY CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER

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 counsel for all parties (and/or *pro se* parties) confer, in person or by telephone, in an effort to settle the case, discuss discovery, limit issues, and discuss other matters and deadlines addressed in the form Scheduling Order, as set forth in Attachment A hereto (an electronic Microsoft Word version of Attachment A may be found on the Court's website at <http://fultonstate.org/judge_tailor.php>). This early planning conference shall be held within thirty (30) days after the appearance of the defendant by answer.¹ If a Motion to Dismiss or Motion to Transfer is filed, the planning conference shall be stayed until the Motion has been ruled on. 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 a proposed Scheduling Order for the Court's review within forty-five (45) days after the appearance of the defendant by answer. The proposed

¹ If multiple defendants are named in the complaint, the deadlines set forth herein run from the filing date of the answer of the first defendant to appear. If either party believes that meeting these deadlines is unfeasible prior to the appearance of additional defendants, the parties who have appeared shall, within ten (10) days after the filing date of the answer, confer and then contact the Court's Staff Attorney to schedule a teleconference with the Court.

Scheduling 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 Scheduling Order, counsel for the plaintiff(s) shall so indicate when filing the proposed Scheduling Order. If the parties fail to reach agreement on portions of the proposed Scheduling Order, each party's position shall be included in the proposed Scheduling Order with a notation in **bold** that the parties failed to reach agreement on that particular portion and an explanation of the reasons for such disagreement.

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

SO ORDERED.

/s/ Wesley B. Taylor
WESLEY B. TAILOR, JUDGE
STATE COURT OF FULTON COUNTY