

(g) Signing  
*John Hancock*  
 Disclosures  
 and Discovery Requests,  
 Responses  
 and Objections.

Responses  
 and Objections.

(1) Signature Required;  
*John Hancock*  
 Effect of Signature:

Every disclosure under Rule 26(a)(1) or (a)(3) and every discovery request, response, or objection

must be signed by at least one attorney of record  
 $> 0$   
 my name is in the attorney's own name

—or by the party personally, if unrepresented—

and must state the signer's address, e-mail address, and telephone number.

By signing, an attorney or party certifies that to the best of the person's knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry:

(A) with respect to a disclosure it is complete and correct as of the time it is made; and

(B) with respect to a discovery request, response, or objection, it is:

(i) consistent with these rules and warranted by existing law

or by a nonfrivolous argument for extending, modifying, or reversing existing law, or for establishing new law;

(ii) not interposed for any improper purpose, such as to harass,

cause unnecessary delay, or needlessly increase the cost of litigation; and

(iii) neither unreasonable nor unduly burdensome or expensive, considering the needs of the case, the amount in controversy, and the importance of the issues at stake in the action,

(2) Failure to sign

Other parties have no duty to act

on an unsigned disclosure request, response, or objection until it is signed, and the court must strike it

unless a signature is promptly supplied after the omission is called to the attorney's or party's attention.

(3) Sanction for Improper Certification. If a certification violates this rule

without substantial justification,

the court, on motion or on its own, must impose an appropriate sanction on the signer, the party on whose behalf the signer was acting, or both.

The sanction may include an order to pay the reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, caused by the violation.

the party on whose behalf the signer was acting, or both.

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