

DEC - 2 2015

Stephan Harris, Clerk  
Cheyenne

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF WYOMING

**GENERAL ORDER REGARDING  
TIMING OF INITIAL PRETRIAL  
CONFERENCES**

Administrative General Order 2015-3

On December 1, 2015, amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure became effective. Those amendments included a change to the timing of scheduling orders pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(2). Specifically, the amendment to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(2) changed the timing for the issuance of a scheduling order to “within the earlier of 90 days after any defendant has been served with the complaint or 60 days after any defendant has appeared.”<sup>1</sup>

Currently, the Local Rules of the United States District Court for the District of Wyoming 16.1(a)(1) provides the Court will set the initial pretrial conference no sooner than forty-two (42) days after the last pleading has been filed with the Court pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. Rule 7. Local Rule 16.1(a)(1) also provides the parties must meet and confer no later than twenty (20) day after the last pleading has been filed pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. Rule 7.

However, there are situations where U.S.D.C.L.R. 16.1(a)(1) will conflict with the new timing requirements of Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(2). As such, the Court may set initial pretrial conferences less than forty-two (42) days after the last pleading has been filed

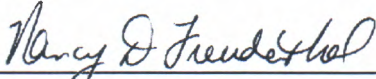
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<sup>1</sup> The prior version of the Rule 16(b)(2) provided for the issuance of a scheduling order “within the earlier of 120 days after any defendant has been served with the complaint or 90 days after any defendant has appeared.”

with the Court pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. Rule 7, when necessary to comply with Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(2).

IT IS ORDERED that for cases filed on or after December 1, 2015, the Court will endeavor to set initial pretrial conferences in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(2), disregarding when necessary the provisions of Local Rule 16.1(a)(1). Parties should follow the provisions of Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) and any specific requirements of the individual judges in preparing for their initial pretrial conference.

Dated this 1st day of December, 2015.

  
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NANCY D. FREUDENTHAL  
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE