

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE  
NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND  
FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NUMBER:

vs.

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**ORDER PRELIMINARY ON DETERMINATION FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS**

Pending before this Court is *Determination and Award Attorney's Fees and Cost* and to ensure an orderly and efficient presentation and/or resolution of this issue, counsel for the parties are directed to comply as follows:

A. Mediation:

1. This case is hereby referred to mediation. The parties will agree upon a mediator and a date for the mediation conference. In the event the parties cannot agree, the Court will select a mediator. Counsel for the moving party shall take the lead in coordinating the mediation and submit a proposed mediation order. Mediation shall be completed prior to request hearing time Motion to Tax Costs and Award Attorney Fees.
2. The costs of the mediation shall be shared equally by the parties involved in the pending motion.

B. Review Costs and Fees:

3. Within five (5) days of this **ORDER**, counsel for the non-moving party shall respond in writing to each item of costs and each fee entry. This response shall state whether counsel agrees or objects to said item. For each objection, counsel shall state the basis and cite the supporting authority.
4. Within five (5) days of receipt of said objections, the moving party shall respond in writing to each objection, stating whether said party concurs with the objection and if not, cite the contrary authority.

5. In the event there is an agreement to a particular cost item or fee request, but disagreement with the amount, the non-moving party shall state the objection and the amount believed to be reasonable.
6. *The Statewide Uniform Guidelines for Taxation of Costs in Civil Actions* shall be used in an attempt to resolve disputes over taxation of costs.
7. Not later than 5 days immediately preceding the mediation, the attorneys shall meet and review the disputed items, reduce any stipulation to writing and provide an Order at the scheduled hearing.

C. Expert Affidavits:

8. Each party shall disclose their experts' opinions in affidavit form 5 days prior to the mediation.

D. Good Faith:

9. Counsel and the parties are directed to exercise good faith in complying with the terms of this **ORDER**. The court may consider appropriate sanctions with regard to unreasonable requests for taxation of costs, and requests for attorney's fees, objections thereto, or failure to comply with this **ORDER**.

**DONE AND ORDERED** at Orlando, Orange County, Florida this \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Circuit Judge

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing was filed with the Clerk of the Courts this \_\_\_\_\_ by using the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal System. Accordingly, a copy of the foregoing is being served on this day to all attorney(s) / interested parties identified on the EPortal Electronic Service List, via transmissions of notices of electronic filing generated by the EPortal System.