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**NRCP 37 – Proposed**  
**(Revised to substantially conform to FRCP 37 but retain**  
**references Rules 16.1, 16.2, and 16.205, as appropriate)**

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**Rule 37. Failure to Make Disclosures or to Cooperate in Discovery;**  
**Sanctions**

(a) **Motion for an Order Compelling Disclosure or Discovery.**

(1) **In General.** On notice to other parties and all affected persons, a party may move for an order compelling disclosure or discovery. The motion must include a certification that the movant has in good faith conferred or attempted to confer with the person or party failing to make disclosure or discovery in an effort to obtain it without court action.

(2) **Appropriate Court.** A motion for an order to a party must be made in the court where the action is pending. A motion for an order to a nonparty must be made in the court where the discovery is or will be taken.

(3) **Specific Motions.**

(A) **To Compel Disclosure.** If a party fails to make a disclosure required by ~~Rule 26(a)~~ Rules 16.1(a), 16.2(d), or 16.205(d), any other party may move to compel disclosure and for appropriate sanctions.

(B) **To Compel a Discovery Response.** A party seeking discovery may move for an order compelling an answer, designation, production, or inspection. This motion may be made if:

(i) a deponent fails to answer a question asked under Rule 30 or 31;

(ii) a corporation or other entity fails to make a designation

1 under Rule 30(b)(6) or 31(a)(4);

2 (iii) a party fails to answer an interrogatory submitted under  
3 Rule 33; or

4 (iv) a party fails to produce documents or fails to respond  
5 that inspection will be permitted—or fails to permit inspection—as requested under  
6 Rule 34.

7 (C) **Related to a Deposition.** When taking an oral deposition,  
8 the party asking a question may complete or adjourn the examination before moving  
9 for an order.

10 (4) **Evasive or Incomplete Disclosure, Answer, or Response.** For  
11 purposes of this subdivision (a), an evasive or incomplete disclosure, answer, or  
12 response must be treated as a failure to disclose, answer, or respond. A party's  
13 production of documents that is not in compliance with Rule 34(b)(2)(E)(i) may also  
14 be treated as a failure to produce documents.

15 (5) **Payment of Expenses; Protective Orders.**

16 (A) **If the Motion Is Granted (or Disclosure or Discovery Is**  
17 **Provided After Filing).** If the motion is granted—or if the disclosure or requested  
18 discovery is provided after the motion was filed—the court must, after giving an  
19 opportunity to be heard, require the party or deponent whose conduct necessitated  
20 the motion, the party or attorney advising that conduct, or both to pay the movant's  
21 reasonable expenses incurred in making the motion, including attorney's fees. But  
22 the court must not order this payment if:

23 (i) the movant filed the motion before attempting in good  
24 faith to obtain the disclosure or discovery without court action;

1 (ii) the opposing party's nondisclosure, response, or objection  
2 was substantially justified; or

3 (iii) other circumstances make an award of expenses unjust.

4 **(B) If the Motion Is Denied.** If the motion is denied, the court  
5 may issue any protective order authorized under Rule 26(c) and must, after giving  
6 an opportunity to be heard, require the movant, the attorney filing the motion, or  
7 both to pay the party or deponent who opposed the motion its reasonable expenses  
8 incurred in opposing the motion, including attorney's fees. But the court must not  
9 order this payment if the motion was substantially justified or other circumstances  
10 make an award of expenses unjust.

11 **(C) If the Motion Is Granted in Part and Denied in Part.** If  
12 the motion is granted in part and denied in part, the court may issue any protective  
13 order authorized under Rule 26(c) and may, after giving an opportunity to be heard,  
14 apportion the reasonable expenses for the motion.

15 **(b) Failure to Comply with a Court Order.**

16 ~~(1) Sanctions Sought in the District Where the Deposition Is Taken. If the~~  
17 ~~court where the discovery is taken orders a deponent to be sworn or to answer a~~  
18 ~~question and the deponent fails to obey, the failure may be treated as contempt of~~  
19 ~~court. If a deposition-related motion is transferred to the court where the action is~~  
20 ~~pending, and that court orders a deponent to be sworn or to answer a question and~~  
21 ~~the deponent fails to obey, the failure may be treated as contempt of either the court~~  
22 ~~where the discovery is taken or the court where the action is pending.~~

23 ~~(2) Sanctions Sought in the District Where the Action Is Pending.~~

24 **(1) Sanctions.**

1 (A) **For Not Obeying a Discovery Order.** If a party or a party's  
2 officer, director, or managing agent—or a witness designated under Rule 30(b)(6) or  
3 31(a)(4)—fails to obey an order to provide or permit discovery, including an order  
4 under ~~Rule 26(f)~~, Rules 35, or 37(a), the court ~~where the action is pending~~ may issue  
5 further just orders. ~~They that~~ may include the following:

6 (i) directing that the matters embraced in the order or other  
7 designated facts be taken as established for purposes of the action, as the prevailing  
8 party claims;

9 (ii) prohibiting the disobedient party from supporting or  
10 opposing designated claims or defenses, or from introducing designated matters in  
11 evidence;

12 (iii) striking pleadings in whole or in part;

13 (iv) staying further proceedings until the order is obeyed;

14 (v) dismissing the action or proceeding in whole or in part;

15 (vi) rendering a default judgment against the disobedient  
16 party; or

17 (vii) treating as contempt of court the failure to obey any  
18 order except an order to submit to a physical or mental examination.

19 (B) **For Not Producing a Person for Examination.** If a party  
20 fails to comply with an order under Rule 35(a) requiring it to produce another person  
21 for examination, the court may issue any of the orders listed in Rule 37(b)(~~21~~)(A)(~~i~~)—  
22 (~~vi~~), unless the disobedient party shows that it cannot produce the other person.

23 (C) **Payment of Expenses.** Instead of or in addition to the orders  
24 above, the court must order the disobedient party, the attorney advising that party,

1 or both to pay the reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, caused by the  
2 failure, unless the failure was substantially justified or other circumstances make an  
3 award of expenses unjust.

4 **(c) Failure to Disclose, to Supplement an Earlier Response, or to**  
5 **Admit.**

6 (1) **Failure to Disclose or Supplement.** If a party fails to provide  
7 information or identify a witness as required by ~~Rule 26(a) or (e)~~, Rule 16.1(a)(1), or  
8 Rule 26(e), the party is not allowed to use that information or witness to supply  
9 evidence on a motion, at a hearing, or at a trial, unless the failure was substantially  
10 justified or is harmless. In addition to or instead of this sanction, the court, on motion  
11 and after giving an opportunity to be heard:

12 (A) may order payment of the reasonable expenses, including  
13 attorney's fees, caused by the failure;

14 (B) may inform the jury of the party's failure; and

15 (C) may impose other appropriate sanctions, including any of the  
16 orders listed in ~~Rule 37(b)(2)(A)(i)-(vi)~~. Rule 37(b)(1)(A).

17 (2) **Failure to Admit.** If a party fails to admit what is requested under  
18 Rule 36 and if the requesting party later proves a document to be genuine or the  
19 matter true, the requesting party may move that the party who failed to admit pay  
20 the reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, incurred in making that proof.

21 The court must so order unless:

22 (A) the request was held objectionable under Rule 36(a);

23 (B) the admission sought was of no substantial importance;

24 (C) the party failing to admit had a reasonable ground to believe

1 that it might prevail on the matter; or

2 (D) there was other good reason for the failure to admit.

3 (d) **Party's Failure to Attend Its Own Deposition, Serve Answers to**  
4 **Interrogatories, or Respond to a Request for Inspection.**

5 (1) **In General.**

6 (A) **Motion; Grounds for Sanctions.** The court ~~where the action~~  
7 ~~is pending may~~, on motion, order sanctions if:

8 (i) a party or a party's officer, director, or managing agent—  
9 or a person designated under Rule 30(b)(6) or 31(a)(4)—fails, after being served with  
10 proper notice, to appear for that person's deposition; or

11 (ii) a party, after being properly served with interrogatories  
12 under Rule 33 or a request for inspection under Rule 34, fails to serve its answers,  
13 objections, or written response.

14 (B) **Certification.** A motion for sanctions for failing to answer or  
15 respond must include a certification that the movant has in good faith conferred or  
16 attempted to confer with the party failing to act in an effort to obtain the answer or  
17 response without court action.

18 (2) **Unacceptable Excuse for Failing to Act.** A failure described in  
19 Rule 37(d)(1)(A) is not excused on the ground that the discovery sought was  
20 objectionable, unless the party failing to act has a pending motion for a protective  
21 order under Rule 26(c).

22 (3) **Types of Sanctions.** Sanctions may include any of the orders listed  
23 in Rule 37(b)(2)(A)(i) ~~(vi)~~. Instead of or in addition to these sanctions, the court must  
24 require the party failing to act, the attorney advising that party, or both, to pay the

1 reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, caused by the failure, unless the  
2 failure was substantially justified or other circumstances make an award of expenses  
3 unjust.

4 **(e) Failure to Preserve Electronically Stored Information.** If  
5 electronically stored information that should have been preserved in the anticipation  
6 or conduct of litigation is lost because a party failed to take reasonable steps to  
7 preserve it, and it cannot be restored or replaced through additional discovery, the  
8 court:

9 (1) upon finding prejudice to another party from loss of the information,  
10 may order measures no greater than necessary to cure the prejudice; or

11 (2) only upon finding that the party acted with the intent to deprive  
12 another party of the information's use in the litigation may:

13 (A) presume that the lost information was unfavorable to the  
14 party;

15 (B) instruct the jury that it may or must presume the information  
16 was unfavorable to the party; or

17 (C) dismiss the action or enter a default judgment.

18 **(f) Failure to Participate in Framing a Discovery Plan.** If a party or its  
19 attorney fails to participate in good faith in developing and submitting a proposed  
20 discovery plan as required by [Rule 26\(f\)](#), [Rule 16.1\(b\)](#), the court may, after giving an  
21 opportunity to be heard, require that party or attorney to pay to any other party the  
22 reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, caused by the failure.