

5.4 Restrictions on Filing Discovery.

(a) In General.

Disclosures under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(1) and (2), depositions, interrogatories, answers and objections to interrogatories, requests for admissions, answers and objections to requests for admissions, requests to produce or inspect, and responses to requests to produce or inspect must not be filed until needed for trial, resolution of a motion, or on the court's order. If a member of the public asks the clerk for nonfiled documents, the parties must make the documents available for inspection, subject to the entry of protective orders under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and other applicable law provisions.

(b) Electronic Service of Discovery.

Notwithstanding the restrictions on filing discovery documents in subparagraph (a) of this rule, the parties may agree at any time to serve discovery documents electronically (*e.g.*, by e-mail or fax).