

12(b) PROCEDURAL ORDER  
JUDGE MITCHELL S. GOLDBERG  
Updated: November 8, 2017

Chambers

United States District Court  
Eastern District Of Pennsylvania  
United States Courthouse, Room 7614  
601 Market Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
Tel: (267) 299-7500

Deputy Clerk/Civil

Sharon Lippi  
(267) 299-7500

Courtroom Deputy/Criminal

Steve Sonnie  
(267) 299-7509

Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the following procedures apply to 12(b) motions only:

A. Pre-Motion To Dismiss Conference

In an effort to reduce the number of easily resolvable motions to dismiss, before bringing a motion to dismiss, motion for a more definite statement, motion to remand, motion for change of venue, and motion for judgment on the pleadings, a party must submit a letter, not to exceed three (3) single-spaced pages, requesting a pre-motion conference. The letter must set forth the basis for the anticipated motion and include citations to relevant authority. Within five (5) business days after receipt of this letter, all parties who will oppose the anticipated motion must submit a written response, not to exceed three (3) single-spaced pages. No party may submit a reply letter. Generally, affidavits and exhibits are not permitted. A proffer by the attorney, however, of the contents of any such affidavit(s) and/or exhibit(s) shall suffice.

The Court will attempt to resolve the dispute(s) at a pre-motion telephone conference. If the dispute cannot be resolved at the conference (or the Court determines that a conference would not be helpful), the moving party will file its motion. The Court hopes to use this procedure to advance the case efficiently and minimize the costs of litigation to the parties. In addition, compliance with this procedure shall not be deemed a waiver of any party's defenses as to insufficient service of process or lack of personal jurisdiction.

A party's submission of a pre-motion letter will toll that party's time to file its motion (or answer) through (i) the date of the pre-motion conference or (ii) the Court's decision not to conduct such a conference.

This letter exchange does not apply in cases in which either side is *pro se* or in bankruptcy or social security appeals.

The Court's Policies and Procedures should be followed for all other motions.

B. Communications with Chambers

All motion to dismiss conference letters shall be electronically filed via ECF (hard copies of letters are not necessary). Facsimile or e-mail submissions are not permitted.

*This 12(b) Procedural Order applies to all cases filed subsequent to September 25, 2017.*