

Rule 7. Pleadings Allowed; Form of Motions and Other Papers

(a) PLEADINGS. Only these pleadings are allowed:

- (1) a complaint;
- (2) an answer to a complaint;
- (3) an answer to a counterclaim designated as a counterclaim;
- (4) an answer to a crossclaim;
- (5) a third-party complaint;
- (6) an answer to a third-party complaint; and
- (7) if the court orders one, a reply to an answer

(b) MOTIONS AND OTHER PAPERS.

(1) *In General.* A request for a court order must be made by motion. The motion must:

- (A) be in writing unless made during a hearing or trial;
- (B) state with particularity the grounds for seeking the order; and
- (C) state the relief sought.

(2) *Form.* The rules governing captions and other matters of form in pleadings apply to motions and other papers.

COMMENT TO 2017 AMENDMENTS

This rule is identical to *Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 7*, as amended in 2007.

COMMENT

Civil Rule 7 has been amended to clarify that the Court may impose sanctions against litigants who engage in improper motions practice. A new provision has been added to this rule to make explicit that the certification requirements and sanctions set forth in new Civil Rule 11 apply as well to motions filed with the Court.