



United States Bankruptcy Court
Middle District of Florida
Sam M. Gibbons United States Courthouse
801 North Florida Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33602

MEMORANDUM

To: Parties Appearing in Courtroom 8B

From: Catherine Peek McEwen, United States Bankruptcy Judge

Subject: Motions for Continuances (Updated)

Date: September 25, 2023

In cases before Judge McEwen, if the Court sets a hearing or trial that presents a conflict with a previously scheduled obligation of a party or counsel, then such person shall **promptly** file a motion to reschedule the hearing or trial to an other date. A tardy motion for continuance may result in sanctions, including the obligation to reimburse the opposing party for any travel expense already incurred in reliance on the original date.

A motion for continuance must include, at a minimum, the reason for the continuance, a statement that the movant has conferred with opposing counsel, and opposing counsel's response, as well as all other applicable information required by Local Rule 5071-1.

If multiple matters are set the same date and time as the matter(s) for which the movant seeks a continuance, the motion should identify by title and docket entry number all of the matters the movant seeks to have continued. It will also assist the Court if the motion states how much hearing time the movant anticipates will be needed for the matter or matters that are the subject of the motion

If the movant and opposing parties have communicated with one another as to possible alternative hearing dates and times, please include this information in the motion with the understanding that although the Court will try to accommodate the parties, it may be unable to do so. [Note: Time slots that appear open on the Court's online calendar are not necessarily available for hearings if, e.g., the judge will be otherwise engaged in meetings, conferences, or other court-related business.]

Do not contact chambers to ask them to look for alternative hearing dates. The Court controls its calendar. This is not Open Table. We do not take reservations.