

# United States District Court

EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA  
401 COURTHOUSE SQUARE  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314-5799

CHAMBERS OF  
LEONIE M. BRINKEMA  
DISTRICT JUDGE

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February 13, 2009

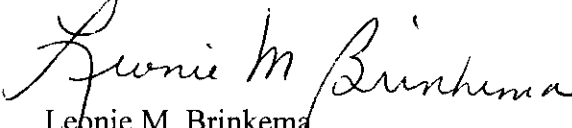
08-CV-188

Mr. Peter G. McCabe  
Secretary  
Committee on Rules of Practice  
and Procedure of the Judicial  
Conference of the United States  
Thurgood Marshall Federal Judicial Building  
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Mr. McCabe:

I join my colleagues, Judge Payne and Judge Smith, in opposing the proposed amendment to Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(c). Setting clear limits on the length of submissions by counsel conserves limited judicial resources and actually improves the quality of the pleadings by forcing counsel to focus on the essentials of their case. Our experience in the Eastern District of Virginia strongly confirms the efficacy of such limits.

Yours truly,

  
Leonie M. Brinkema  
United States District Judge

cc: Chief Judge Sedwick  
Judge Graham Mullen  
Chief Judge David C. Norton  
All EDVA Judges