

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
MISSOURI, SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION

Breanna Backfisch v. Penske Truck Leasing Co., L.P. et al.

Backfisch · No. 1:24-cv-00213-SNLJ · Decided April 2, 2026

SUMMARY

The court grants plaintiff Breanna Backfisch’s unopposed motion to compel Trucking Times, Inc. to designate and produce a corporate representative for a deposition under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30(b)(6). The order directs Trucking Times to produce the representative by April 15, 2026, in connection with plaintiff’s personal injury action arising from a commercial motor vehicle crash.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, Southeastern Division
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Stephen N. Limbaugh, Jr.
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, Southeastern Division
DECIDED	April 2, 2026
DOCKET	1:24-cv-00213-SNLJ
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff moved to compel defendant Trucking Times, Inc. to designate and produce a corporate representative for a deposition under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30(b)(6). The motion was unopposed.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court applied its discretion under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 37(a) to determine whether to compel the requested discovery.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished district court memorandum and order; persuasive value only.
PARTIES	Breanna Backfisch v. Penske Truck Leasing Co., L.P. et al.

TOPICS

- discovery dispute
- civil procedure
- personal injury
- commercial litigation
- sanctions

PRACTICE AREAS

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should compel Trucking Times, Inc. to designate and produce a corporate representative for a deposition under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30(b)(6).
2. Whether an organizational entity may be compelled to produce a Rule 30(b)(6) witness to testify about information known or reasonably available to the organization, including when the entity may no longer be operational.

HOLDINGS

1. Under Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 30(b)(6) and 37(a), the court may compel an organization that has failed to designate or produce a corporate representative to designate, prepare, and produce a witness for deposition.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Rule 30(b)(6) deposition serves a unique function as it is the “sworn corporate admission that is binding on the corporation.””

“The plaintiff is entitled to notice or subpoena the deposition of a corporate designee to testify about information known or reasonably available to Trucking Times.”

“Trucking Times shall designate and produce a Rule 30(b)(6) representative to sit for its deposition by April 15, 2026.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiff alleges that she suffered personal injuries in a December 16, 2019 crash when the vehicle in which she was riding was rear-ended by a tractor-trailer driven by defendant Toshtemir Bahromov. Bahromov allegedly worked for Trucking Times, Inc., which was delivering cargo for Federal Express Corporation, and the tractor-trailer was allegedly rented or leased from Penske Truck Leasing Co., L.P. Plaintiff deposed Bahromov and sought to depose Trucking Times president and owner Ibrat Djabbarov, who failed to appear. Trucking Times and Djabbarov did not provide dates for the deposition or for a requested Rule 30(b)(6) deposition.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

In this personal-injury action arising from a commercial motor vehicle crash, plaintiff previously sought to depose Trucking Times's president and owner, Ibrat Djabbarov. Djabbarov failed to appear, and Trucking Times and Djabbarov did not provide dates for a rescheduled deposition or a corporate-representative deposition. The district court granted plaintiff's motion to compel and ordered Trucking Times to designate, prepare, and produce a Rule 30(b)(6) representative by April 15, 2026.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Sprint Communications Co., L.P. v. Theglobe.com, Inc., 236 F.R.D. 524, 527 (D. Kan. 2006)
- Prokosch v. Catalina Lighting, Inc., 193 F.R.D. 633, 639 (D. Minn. 2000)
- W.R. Grace & Co. v. N&M, Inc., No. 1:06mc602WJG, 2006 WL 3694595, at *2 (S.D. Miss. Dec. 13, 2006)
- Kanaji v. Philadelphia Child Guidance Ctr. of Children's Hosp., No. CIV.A. 00-937, 2001 WL 708898, at *2 (E.D. Pa. June 20, 2001)
- Cedar Hill Hardware & Constr. Supply, Inc. v. Ins. Corp. of Hannover, 563 F.3d 329, 345 (8th Cir. 2009)

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