UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF KANSAS

Lexos Media IP, LLC v. Overstock.com, Inc.

No. 2:22-cv-2324-JAR, United States District Court for the District of Kansas (December 15, 2025)

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the District of Kansas orders Lexos Media IP, LLC's attorneys to show cause why they should not be sanctioned under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11 and referred for disciplinary action. The order concerns defective legal citations, quotations, and representations allegedly generated using artificial intelligence and not independently verified. It directs counsel to submit sworn declarations addressing their roles, AI use, cite-checking procedures, client approval, billing, and service of the order by January 5, 2026.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of Kansas
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Julie A. Robinson
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the District of Kansas
DECIDED	December 15, 2025
DOCKET	2:22-cv-2324-JAR
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The district court issued a sua sponte order to show cause after finding that Plaintiff's response briefs contained fabricated and misleading legal citations and quotations generated in part through the use of artificial intelligence.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished district court order; precedential status not stated

TOPICS

sanctions · civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

civil procedure · legal ethics · sanctions · patent litigation

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court may sua sponte require attorneys to show cause why their use of unverified generative-AI research and resulting defective citations violated Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11(b).

2. Whether the attorneys who signed or were treated as signatories to Plaintiff's briefs should be required to provide sworn information concerning their roles, use of AI, cite-checking procedures, client disclosures, and billing.

HOLDINGS

1. A district court may sua sponte order an attorney, law firm, or party to show cause why specifically described conduct has not violated Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11(b), including conduct involving the submission of unverified AI-generated legal citations and quotations.
2. Each attorney listed on the signature blocks of Plaintiff's briefs must submit a written declaration under penalty of perjury addressing the attorney's role in drafting, reviewing, and filing the briefs; the AI platforms used; cite-checking procedures; client knowledge and approval; and related billing, and must certify that the order was provided to Plaintiff.

KEY QUOTATIONS

> *"Courts across the country—both within the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit . . . and outside of it—recognize that Rule 11 applies to the use of artificial intelligence."*

> *"Nonetheless, the Court may sua sponte "order an attorney, law firm, or party to show cause why conduct specifically described in the order has not violated Rule 11(b)."*"

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Lexos's response briefs contained nonexistent quotations, nonexistent or incorrect citations, and misrepresentations concerning cited authority. Plaintiff's counsel acknowledged that portions of the briefing were derived from generative-artificial-intelligence research that had not been independently verified before filing. Although one attorney submitted a declaration accepting responsibility, the court remained concerned about the roles of the other attorneys who appeared on the signature blocks and about Lexos's knowledge of and payment for the work.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Lexos filed an opposition to Overstock's motion to exclude expert testimony, a response to Overstock's motion for summary judgment, and a motion for leave to file corrected opposition papers. The court reviewed those filings and related submissions, including counsel's declaration, and ordered each attorney listed on the relevant signature blocks to show cause why sanctions under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11 and disciplinary referrals should not issue.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Coomer v. Lindell, No. 22-CV-01129, 2025 WL 1865282, at *3 (D. Colo. July 7, 2025)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AN AI ASSISTANT

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