

FEDERAL RULES OF REVIEW: RULE 30

(e) Review by Witness; Changes; Signing.

If requested by the deponent or a party before completion of the deposition, the deponent shall have 30 days after being notified by the officer that the transcript or recording is available in which to review the transcript or recording and, if there are changes in form or substance, to sign a statement reciting such changes and the reasons given by the deponent for making them.

The officer shall indicate in the certificate prescribed by subdivision (f)(1) whether any review was requested and, if so, shall append any changes made by the deponent during the period allowed.

FEDERAL COURT CASES:

Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30 (e), the deponent does not have an automatic right to review the transcript. Review must be specifically requested before the conclusion of the deposition, or it is waived. Upon request, the deponent is allowed 30 days after notification to review the transcript and make changes.

It is not the role of the court reporter to ask whether the witness would like to read and sign the transcript. In fact, the reporter should refrain from doing so to avoid potentially interfering with the strategy of the attorneys to the action.

If no review is requested, FRCP 30(f)(1) directs the court reporter to seal the deposition in an envelope bearing the title of the action and the deponents' name and send it directly to the attorney who scheduled the deposition.