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2017 Edition

Request to Revise

A Guide to Resources in the Law Library

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Treated Elsewhere:

- Answer, Special Defense, Counterclaim and Setoff to a Civil Complaint
- <u>Default Motions and Judgments</u>
- Motion to Dismiss
- Motion to Strike
- Motion for Summary Judgment

Prepared by Connecticut Judicial Branch, Superior Court Operations, Judge Support Services, Law Library Services Unit

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A Guide to Resources in the Law Library

- Request to Revise: "Whenever any party desires to obtain (1) a more complete or particular statement of the allegations of an adverse party's pleading, or (2) the deletion of any unnecessary, repetitious, scandalous, impertinent, immaterial or otherwise improper allegations in an adverse party's pleading, or (3) separation of causes of action which may be united in one complaint when they are improperly combined in one count, or the separation of two or more grounds of defense improperly combined in one defense, or (4) any other appropriate correction in an adverse party's pleading, the party desiring any such amendment in an adverse party's pleading may file a timely request to revise that pleading." Conn. Practice Book § 10-35 (2017).
- **Granting of Request to Revise**: "Any such request, after service upon each party as provided by Sections 10-12 through 10-17 and with proof of service endorsed thereon, shall be filed with the clerk of the court in which the action is pending, and such request shall be deemed to have been automatically granted by the judicial authority on the date of filing and shall be complied with by the party to whom it is directed within thirty days of the date of filing the same, unless within thirty days of such filing the party to whom it is directed shall file objection thereto." Conn. Practice Book § 10-37(a) (2017).
- "The purpose of the complaint is to limit the issues to be decided at the trial of a case and is calculated to prevent surprise...." <u>Criscuolo v. Mauro Motors, Inc.</u>, 58 Conn. App. 537, 544, 754 A.2d 810 (2000).
- "In the event that a party believes it is called upon to respond to a pleading that improperly combines two or more claims in a single count, our rules permit the filing of a timely request to revise that pleading." Fuessenich v. DiNardo, 195 Conn. 144, 148, 487 A.2d 514 (1985).
- "A request to revise is permissible to obtain information so that a defendant may intelligently plead and prepare his case for trial but it is never appropriate where the information sought is merely evidential. *Tishkevich* v. *Connecticut Light & Power Co.*, 9 Conn. Sup. 6. The defendant is not entitled to know the plaintiff's proof but only what he claims as his cause of action. *Sebastianello* v. *Hamden*, 10 Conn. Sup. 283." <u>Kileen v. Gen. Motors Corp.</u>, 36 Conn. Supp. 347, 349, 421 A.2d 874 (1980).

Section 1: Reasons for a Request to Revise

A Guide to Resources in the Law Library

SCOPE:

Bibliographic resources relating to a request to revise a complaint

DEFINITIONS:

- Request to Revise: "Whenever any party desires to obtain (1) a more complete or particular statement of the allegations of an adverse party's pleading, or (2) the deletion of any unnecessary, repetitious, scandalous, impertinent, immaterial or otherwise improper allegations in an adverse party's pleading, or (3) separation of causes of action which may be united in one complaint when they are improperly combined in one count, or the separation of two or more grounds of defense improperly combined in one defense, or (4) any other appropriate correction in an adverse party's pleading, the party desiring any such amendment in an adverse party's pleading may file a timely request to revise that pleading."

 Conn. Practice Book § 10-35 (2017).
- Reasons in Request to Revise: "The request to revise shall set forth, for each requested revision, the portion of the pleading sought to be revised, the requested revision, and the reasons therefor, and, except where the request is served electronically in accordance with Section 10-13, in a format that allows the recipient to insert electronically the objection and reasons therefore, provide sufficient space in which the party to whom the request is directed can insert an objection and reasons therefor."

 Conn. Practice Book § 10-36 (2017).

STATUTES:

You can visit your local law library or search the most recent <u>statutes</u> and <u>public acts</u> on the Connecticut General Assembly website.

- Conn. Gen. Stat. (2017)
 - <u>Chapter 898</u> Pleading
 - § 52-119. Pleading to be according to rules and orders of court.

COURT RULES:

Amendments to the Practice Book (Court Rules) are published in the Connecticut Law Journal and posted online.

- Connecticut Practice Book (2017)
 - § 10-1. Fact Pleading.
 - § 10-6. Pleadings Allowed and Their Order.
 - § 10-7. Waiving Right to Plead
 - § 10-26. Separate Counts
 - § 10-35. Request to Revise.
 - § 10-36. -Reasons in Request to Revise.
 - § <u>10-37</u>. –Granting of and Objection to Request to Revise.
 - § <u>10-38</u>. –Waiver of Pleading Revisions.

FORMS:

Margaret Penny Mason, LexisNexis Practice Guide: Connecticut Civil Pretrial Practice (2016 ed.).

§ 7.28. Form: Request to Revise

Joel M. Kaye, Connecticut Practice Series, CT Civil Practice Forms (2004).

> Form 106.3. Request to Revise Form S-35. Request to Revise Request for Admission

Ralph P. Dupont, Dupont on Connecticut Civil Practice (2016-2017).

> F.10-35. Request to Revise (106.3). F.10-37. Objection to Request to Revise.

Robert M. Singer, Library of Connecticut Collection Law Forms (2015).

9-003. Request to Revise. [Special Defense]

CASES:

Once you have identified useful cases, it is important to update the cases before you rely on them. Updating case law means checking to see if the cases are still good law. You can contact your local law librarian to learn about the tools available to you to update cases.

- Benedetto v. Dietze & Associates, LLC, 159 Conn. App. 874, 880, fn. 5 (2015). "In particular, the defendants cited in their motion to Royce v. Westport, 183 Conn. 177, 179, 439 A.2d 298 (1981), in which our Supreme Court stated: 'When a [motion to strike] is [granted] and the pleading to which it was directed is amended, that amendment acts to remove the original pleading and the [motion to strike] thereto from the case. The filing of the amended pleading is a withdrawal of the original pleading.' The defendants also cited P & L Properties, Inc. v. Schnip Development Corp., 35 Conn. App. 46, 50, 643 A.2d 1302, cert. denied, 231 Conn. 913, 648 A.2d 155 (1994), in which this court stated: 'When the allegations of an amended complaint appear to be the same in substance as those of an earlier complaint that was stricken, the defendant may challenge the amended complaint by filing a request to revise ... or a second motion to strike."
- Stone v. Pattis, 144 Conn. App. 79, 93-94, 72 A.3d 1138 (2013). "Practice Book § 10−35 states in relevant part: 'Whenever a party desires to obtain ... (2) the deletion of any unnecessary, repetitious, scandalous, impertinent, immaterial or otherwise improper allegations in an adverse party's pleading ... or (4) any other appropriate correction in an adverse party's pleading, the party desiring any such amendment in an adverse party's pleading may file a timely request to revise that pleading.' The plaintiffs argue that 'there is nothing in Practice Book Rule § 10-35 regarding Request to Revise that allows for the deletion of entire counts of a complaint.' This claim is contrary to the language of Practice Book § 10-35, as the section specifically states that a request to revise is the appropriate method for the 'deletion of any unnecessary, repetitious, scandalous, impertinent, immaterial or otherwise improper Request to Revise - 5

allegations.""

- Thames River Recycling, Inc. v. Gallo, 50 Conn. App. 767, 782-83, 720 A.2d 242 (1998). "Our rules of practice contain provisions for the framing of issues for trial. Pleadings have an essential purpose in the judicial process. See Rummel v. Rummel, 33 Conn. App. 214, 217, 635 A.2d 295 (1993). 'The purpose of pleading is to apprise the court and opposing counsel of the issues to be tried, not to conceal basic issues until the trial is under way....' DuBose v. Carabetta, 161 Conn. 254, 261, 287 A.2d 357 (1971). The defendant is not excused from following our established rules of practice. If Gallo was aware of the two separate factual bases on which count four was pleaded, he could have corrected the problem by filing a request to revise or a motion to strike or any other procedural remedy provided by the rules of practice."
- P & L Properties, Inc. v. Schnip Dev. Corp., 35 Conn. App. 46, 50, 643 A.2d 1302 (1994). "When the allegations of an amended complaint appear to be the same in substance as those of an earlier complaint that was stricken, the defendant may challenge the amended complaint by filing a request to revise; Royce v. Westport, supra, 183 Conn. at 180-81, 439 A.2d 298;"
- Rowe v. Godou, 209 Conn. 273, 279, 550 A.2d 1073 (1988). "It is true that the plaintiff's complaint is confusing because it combines, in a single count, separate causes of action against the individual defendant and the municipality. Since there was nothing to prevent those two possible causes of action from being joined in the same complaint, however, the proper way to cure any confusion in that regard is to file a motion to revise, not a motion to strike the entire complaint."
- <u>Fuessenich v. DiNardo</u>, 195 Conn. 144, 148, 487 A.2d 514 (1985). "In the event that a party believes it is called upon to respond to a pleading that improperly combines two or more claims in a single count, our rules permit the filing of a timely request to revise that pleading."
- Kileen v. General Motors Corp., 36 Conn. Supp. 347, 349, 421 A.2d 874, 875 (1980). "A request to revise is permissible to obtain information so that a defendant may intelligently plead and prepare his case for trial but it is never appropriate where the information sought is merely evidential. *Tishkevich* v. *Connecticut Light & Power Co.*, 9 Conn. Sup. 6. The defendant is not entitled to know the plaintiff's proof but only what he claims as his cause of action. *Sebastianello* v. *Hamden*, 10 Conn. Sup. 283."

WEST KEY NUMBERS:

TREATISES:

You can click on the links provided to see which law libraries own the title you are interested in, or visit our catalog directly to search for more treatises.

- Pleading, Key Numbers 351-368
- Margaret Penny Mason, <u>LexisNexis Practice Guide:</u> <u>Connecticut Civil Pretrial Practice</u> (2016 ed.).
 - o Chapter 7. Pleadings
 - § 7.17. Request to Revise
 - [1] Purpose of Request to Revise
 - [2] Difference Between Request to Revise and Motion to Strike
 - [3] Format of Request to Revise
 - [4] Request to Revise Deemed Granted Unless a Party Objects
 - [5] Objecting to a Request to Revise
 - [6] Failure to Comply with Request to Revise May Result in Nonsuit or Judgment for Default
 - [7] Waiver of Pleading Revisions
- Ralph P. Dupont, <u>Dupont on Connecticut Civil Practice</u> (2016-2017).
 - o Chapter 10. Pleadings
 - § 10-35.1. Function of the Request to Revise
 - § 10-36.1. Format and Style of Request
 - § 10-37.1. Revision Automatically Granted; Written Objection Required
 - § 10-38.1. Pleading Revisions; Limitations on Requests
- Renee Bevacqua Bollier, <u>Stephenson's Connecticut Civil</u> Procedure (1997).
 - o Chapter 7. Motions Prior to Trial

Sec. 69. Request to Revise

- a. History
- b. Function
- c. Practice Book Restrictions
- Kimberly A. Peterson, <u>Civil Litigation in Connecticut:</u> <u>Anatomy of a Lawsuit</u> (1998).
 - Chapter 11. Pleadings: Defendant's Request to Revise, Plaintiff's Response and Amending Pleadings
- 18 Erin Carlson, Connecticut Practice Series, <u>Summary</u> <u>Judgment & Related Termination Motions</u> (2016).
 - § 1:20. Improper allegation
 - § 1:21. Improper allegation—Immaterial allegation
 - § 1:36. Irrelevant, false or im proper matter
- Jeanine M. Dumont, <u>Pleadings and Pretrial Practice</u>: <u>A</u>
 <u>Deskbook for Connecticut Litigators</u> (1998 ed.).
 - o Chapter IX. Request to Revise.

LAW REVIEWS:

Public access to law review databases is available on-site at each of our <u>law</u> <u>libraries</u>.

- Corey M. Dennis, <u>Roadmap to Connecticut Procedure</u>, 83 Connecticut Bar Journal 271 (2009).
- James E. Wildes, <u>Tort Developments in 2011</u>, 86 Connecticut Bar Journal 28 (2012).

Section 2: Granting of and Objection to a Request to Revise

A Guide to Resources in the Law Library

SCOPE:

Bibliographic resources relating to the objection to and granting of a Request to Revise.

DEFINITIONS:

- franting of Request to Revise: "Any such request, after service upon each party as provided by Sections 10-12 through 10-17 and with proof of service endorsed thereon, shall be filed with the clerk of the court in which the action is pending, and such request shall be deemed to have been automatically granted by the judicial authority on the date of filing and shall be complied with by the party to whom it is directed within thirty days of the date of filing the same, unless within thirty days of such filing the party to whom it is directed shall file objection thereto."

 Conn. Practice Book § 10-37(a) (2017).
- Objection to Request to Revise: "The objection and the reasons therefor shall be inserted on the request to revise in the space provided under the appropriate requested revision. In the event that a reason for objection requires more space than that provided on the request to revise, it shall be continued on a separate sheet of paper which shall be attached to that document, except where the request is served electronically as provided in Section 10-13 and in a format that allows the recipient to electronically insert the objection and reasons therefor. The request to revise on which objections have been inserted shall be appended to a cover sheet which shall comply with Sections 4-1 and 4-2 and the objecting party shall specify thereon to which of the requested revisions objection is raised. The cover sheet with the appended objections shall be filed with the clerk within thirty days from the date of the filing of the request for the next short calendar list. If the judicial authority overrules the objection, a substitute pleading in compliance with the order of the judicial authority shall be filed within fifteen days of such order."

Conn. Practice Book § 10-37(b) (2017).

STATUTES:

You can visit your local law library or search the most recent <u>statutes</u> and <u>public acts</u> on the Connecticut General Assembly website.

Conn. Gen. Stat. (2017)
 <u>Chapter 898</u> – Pleading
 § 52-119. Pleading to be according to rules and orders of court.

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 - § 10-7. Waiving Right to Plead
 - § 10-26. Separate Counts
 - § <u>10-35</u>. Request to Revise.
 - § 10-36. -Reasons in Request to Revise.
 - § <u>10-37</u>. -Granting of and Objection to Request to Revise.
 - § 10-38. -Waiver of Pleading Revisions.
 - § 17-19. Procedure Where Party Fails to Comply with
 - § Order of Judicial Authority...
 - § 17-43. Opening Judgment Upon Default or Nonsuit

FORMS:

- Ralph P. Dupont, <u>Dupont on Connecticut Civil Practice</u> (2016-2017).
 - F.10-35. Request to Revise (106.3).
 - F.10-37. Objection to Request to Revise.

CASES:

Once you have identified useful cases, it is important to update the cases before you rely on them. Updating case law means checking to see if the cases are still good law. You can contact your local law librarian to learn about the tools available to you to update cases.

- Benedetto v. Dietze & Associates, LLC, 159 Conn. App. 874, 878-879 (2015). "In particular, they argued that by filing an amended complaint after the court had granted in part the defendants' motion to strike, the plaintiffs had essentially reset the order of the pleadings such that a request to revise could be filed properly. In support of their argument, the defendants cited two cases from our Supreme Court and this court. The trial court agreed with the defendants' argument, and overruled the plaintiffs' objection to the request to revise."
- Pellecchia v. Connecticut Light & Power Co., 52 Conn. Supp. 435, 54 A.3d 1080 (2011). "The plaintiffs reference to Burgess v. Vanguard Ins. Co., 192 Conn. 124, 125-27, 470 A.2d 244 (1984), is unavailing. There, in contrast to the plaintiff's conduct in the 2008 action, the plaintiffs filed an objection to a request to revise, which the court overruled, but then declined to file a substitute pleading. See id. at 124-25, 470 A.2d 244. The claimed error which was the subject of appeal was 'the decision overruling the plaintiffs' objection to the defendant's request to revise.' Id. at 125, 470 A.2d 244. As explained above, in the 2008 action, the plaintiff did not timely object to the CL & P defendants' requests to revise, which were automatically granted by operation of Practice Book § 10-37. While such a request is procedural in nature and not substantive, since the sufficiency of the allegations is not involved; see id.; here, the plaintiff's failure to respond resulted in the granting of the requests by operation of law. The court was not required to consider untimely objections. No acceptable excuse for the plaintiff's conduct has been offered. The plaintiff's own conduct resulted in the automatic granting of the requests to revise."

Once you have identified useful cases, it is important to update the cases before you rely on them. Updating case law means checking to see if the cases are still good law. You can contact your local law librarian to learn about the tools available to you to update cases

- Dauti v. Stop & Shop Supermarket Co., 90 Conn. App. 626, 634-35, 879 A.2d 507 (2005), cert. denied, 276 Conn. 902 (2005). "After reviewing the original complaint, the orders of the court and the revised complaint, we fully agree that the plaintiffs failed to comply with the court's order to revise their complaint in accordance with the requests to revise.... In view of the plaintiffs' failure to comply with the court's order, we can only conclude that the court did not abuse its discretion in granting the motions for a judgment of nonsuit filed by those defendants."
- Connecticut Light & Power Co. v. St. John, 80 Conn. App. 767, 774, 837 A.2d 841 (2004). "In the present case, it is undisputed that the plaintiff's request to revise was directed only to the defendants' counterclaims and not their answers. It further is undisputed that the basis of the plaintiff's 'motion for default' for failure to plead was that the defendants failed to object to or to comply with its request to revise. General Statutes § 52-119 provides that '[p]arties failing to plead according to the rules and orders of the court may be nonsuited or defaulted, as the case may be.' (Emphasis added.) See also Practice Book § 10-18. The proper court action in this case was to nonsuit the defendants on their counterclaims rather than to default them on the plaintiff's complaint and on their counterclaims."
- Burgess v. Vanguard Ins. Co., 192 Conn. 124, 470 A. 2d 244 (1984). "Although the appeal is from the judgment of nonsuit the assigned error is the decision overruling the plaintiffs' objection to the defendant's request to revise. That request was for the plaintiffs to separate the 'causes of action' alleged in the fourth count. The narrow issue presented in such a request is procedural not substantive. The sufficiency of the allegations is not involved. The question is whether the fourth count states two separate and distinct causes of action, in which case they should be contained in separate counts... Unless the causes of action are both separable from each other and separable by some distinct line of demarcation a single count is appropriate. Veits v. Hartford, 134 Conn. 428, 438, 58 A.2d 389 (1948).

"A cause of action is that single group of facts which is claimed to have brought about an unlawful injury to the plaintiff and which entitles the plaintiff to relief.' *Bridgeport Hydraulic Co.* v. *Pearson*, 139 Conn. 186, 197, 91 A.2d 778 (1952). 'A right of action at law arises from the existence of a primary right in the plaintiff, and an invasion of that right by some delict on the part of the defendant. The facts which establish the existence of that right and that delict constitute the cause of action.' *Pavelka* v. *St. Albert Society*, 82 Conn. 146, 147, 72 A. 725 (1909). 'It is proper to amplify or expand what has already been alleged in support of a cause

of action, provided the identity of the cause of action remains substantially the same, but where an entirely new and different factual situation is presented, a new and different cause of action is stated.' *Gallo* v. *G. Fox & Co.*, 148 Conn. 327, 330, 170 A.2d 724 (1961). If, however, the plaintiff's claims for relief grow out of a single occurrence or transaction or closely related occurrences or transactions they may be set forth in a single count and it does not matter that the claims for relief do not have the same legal basis. *Veits* v. *Hartford*, supra, 438-39."

Royce v. Town of Westport, 183 Conn. 177, 182, 439 A.2d 298 (1981). "The trial court's judgment, after correctly reciting the sustaining of the defendant's demurrer to the plaintiffs' complaint, granted judgment for the defendant on its demurrer to that complaint, 'the plaintiffs having failed and neglected to plead further.' The judgment should have been predicated not on the plaintiffs' failure to plead further but rather on the plaintiffs' failure to plead differently. That is the import of the removal of the plaintiffs' September complaint by virtue of the order granting the request to revise. Our holding in *Good Humor Corporation* v. *Ricciuti*, supra, see also *Hillyer* v. *Winsted*, supra, makes it clear that judgment should be rendered on the request to revise, in the special circumstance in which it is granted for the reason that the substitute pleading does not differ substantially from the demurrable pleading."

WEST KEY NUMBERS:

• *Pleading*, Key Numbers 351-368

TREATISES:

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- Ralph P. Dupont, <u>Dupont on Connecticut Civil Practice</u> (2016-2017).
 - o Chapter 10. Pleadings
 - § 10-35.1. Function of the Request to Revise
 - § 10-36.1. Format and Style of Request
 - § 10-37.1. Revision Automatically Granted; Written

Objection Required § 10-38.1. Pleading Revisions; Limitations on Requests

- Renee Bevacqua Bollier, <u>Stephenson's Connecticut Civil</u> <u>Procedure</u> (1997).
 - o Chapter 7. Motions Prior to Trial

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 - Chapter 11. Pleadings: Defendant's Request to Revise, Plaintiff's Response and Amending Pleadings
 - o Chapter 16. Pleadings: Motions Against Defendants Who Do Not Comply with the Rules of Court
 - I. Nonsuits Versus Defaults
 - II. When a Nonsuit is Granted
 - III. Failure to Plead: Request to Revise
- 18 Erin Carlson, Connecticut Practice Series, <u>Summary</u> Judgment & Related Termination Motions (2016).
 - o Chapter 1
 - § 1:20. Improper allegation
 - § 1:21. Improper allegation—Immaterial allegation
 - § 1:36. Irrelevant, false or improper matter
- Jeanine M. Dumont, <u>Pleadings and Pretrial Practice: A Deskbook for Connecticut Litigators</u> (1998 ed.).
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- Corey M. Dennis, <u>Roadmap to Connecticut Procedure</u>, 83 Connecticut Bar Journal 271 (2009).
- James E. Wildes, <u>Tort Developments in 2011</u>, 86 Connecticut Bar Journal 28 (2012).

Figure 1: Request to Revise (Form) Form 105.1, Heading and Form 106.3, Request to Revise, 2 Conn. Practice Book (1997).Superior Court Judicial District of _____ (First Named Plaintiff) ٧. (First Named Defendant) (Date) Request to Revise Pursuant to Practice Book Section 10-36, the defendant, _____, hereby requests that the Plaintiff's Complaint dated ______, 20__ be revised as follows: 1. A. Portion of complaint to be revised: Third through Sixth Counts. "8. The defendant, _____, held the property known as 1234 Fairview Avenue, Orange, Connecticut, in his name for the benefit of, _____, but transferred said property to the defendant on or about, _____, 20___ after notice of plaintiff's claim, and which said the defendant,_____, was aware of the plaintiff's claims." B. Requested Revision: Set forth whether the defendant, _____, was aware of the plaintiff's claims at the time of the alleged transfer. C. Reason for Request: The defendant, _____, requires this information so that she can articulate an answer to plaintiff's pleading. 2. A. Portion of pleading to be revised: [State portion.] B. Requested Revision: [State requested revision.] C. Reason for Request: [State reason.] Etc. State any other appropriate correction requested in the adverse party's pleading with the reasons therefor. (See P.B. § 10-35.)