

DEPOSING THE VENTRILOQUIST'S DUMMY

PAUL N. GOLD

AVERSANO & GOLD

HOUSTON, TEXAS

WWW.CUTTING EDGE JUSTICE.COMM

DCR DEPOSITIONS DEPOSITIONS OF CORPORATE REPRESENTATIVES

SECONDARY RESOURCES

- pgold@agtriallaw.com;
- Kosieradzki, 30(b)(6), Deposing Corporations, Organizations & Government (Trial Guides, 2016);
- Wise and Wooten, The Practitioner's
 Guide To Properly Taking and
 Defending Depositions Under the Texas
 Discovery Rules, Baylor L. R., 68:402
 (2016)

EXCELLENT OVERVIEW

QBE Ins. Corp. V. Jorda Enterprises, Inc., 277 F.R.D. 676 (S.D. Fla. 2012)

FED. R. CIV. P. 30(b)(6)

BREAKDOWN OF RULE

- Applies to all types of entities, parties and non-parties;
- Activated by serving topics with reasonable particularity. Must be tailored to claims and defenses;
- Entity chooses representative, but must educate representative on composite knowledge of corporation; what is known or knowable by corporation
- Representative may be separately deposed as a fact witness.

Federal rule informs Texas rule (199.2(b))

To be sure, there are differences in language between the Texas rule and the federal rule. But as we affirmed in *In re Weekley Homes*, "our rules as written are not inconsistent with the federal rules or the case law interpreting them," even though they may not "mirror the federal language."⁷¹

In re State Farm Lloyds,

520 S.W.3d 595, 613

(Tex. 2017)





Find the full text of this and thousands of other resources from leading experts in dozens of legal practice areas in the <u>UT Law CLE eLibrary (utcle.org/elibrary)</u>

Title search: Deposing the Ventriloquist's Dummy

Also available as part of the eCourse

<u>Taking the Deposition of a Corporate Representative or Expert</u>

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the 2018 Winning at Deposition: Skills and Strategy session "Taking the Deposition of a Corporate Representative"