

DOCKET NO.: LLI-CV-21-5014019-S : SUPERIOR COURT
GOODWIN, JON ET AL : JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF LITCHFIELD
VS. : AT TORRINGTON
MILOT, RAYMOND, ET AL : FEBRUARY 19 2026

**OBJECTION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR DEFAULT FOR FAILURE TO
APPEAR FOR DEPOSITION**

The Defendant, Raymond J. Milot, Jr., through undersigned counsel, hereby objects to Plaintiff's Motion for Default dated February 13, 2026, and states as follows:

I. The Nonappearance Was Not Willful

Plaintiff's motion attempts to characterize Defendant's nonappearance as intentional disregard of the Court's authority. That is incorrect. Counsel notified Plaintiff on February 12, 2026, prior to the scheduled deposition that counsel would be unavailable due to a conflicting court engagement.

Defendant did not seek to evade discovery. Rather:

- The deposition was noticed (deposition notice hereto attached as **EXHIBIT A.**) and counsel had a prior obligation in a hearing for a criminal matter in Stamford, CT.
- The Defendant, Raymond J. Milot, Jr., was unavailable on the date of scheduled deposition due to personal and other court-related obligations.
- Counsel promptly communicated the conflict following the Courts Orders on the Protective Order and Objection to deposition two days before scheduled deposition.
- Counsel expressly indicated availability to proceed in March 2026.

Deposition in this matter remains open through June 30, 2026, pursuant to the scheduling order. The proposed March deposition rescheduling falls well within that deadline.

II. Plaintiff's Motion Selectively Omits Material Communications

Plaintiff's motion includes selected email excerpts but omits the communication in which undersigned counsel offered to proceed with the deposition in March 2026. That omission materially alters the narrative presented to the court.

The omitted email (attached hereto as exhibit B) demonstrates Defendant, through counsel, did not categorically refuse to appear, proposed prompt rescheduling, and the proposed time frame fell months before the deadline to complete depositions.

This is not obstruction or willful failure to appear. It is coordination within an open discovery window.

III. No Prejudice Exists

Plaintiff claims immediate prejudice. That assertion is unsustainable. Discovery does not close until June 30, 2026. The Defendant, through counsel, offered to reschedule within weeks. Any claimed deposition cost arose after Plaintiff was notified of counsel's unavailability.

A short rescheduling within the discovery period does not justify the extraordinary remedy of default.

IV. Default is an Extreme Remedy Not Warranted Here

Practice Book §13-14 permits the court to make proportional orders as justice requires where noncompliance is willful, in bad faith, or part of a pattern of obstruction. That standard is not met.

The record reflects:

- A scheduling dispute.
- Counsel's and Defendants prior Court obligations and conflict.
- Advance notice of non-attendance.
- Willingness to proceed within the discovery window.

Entry of default under these circumstances would be disproportionate and inconsistent with Connecticut's preference for adjudication on the merits.

V. Defendant Remains Willing to Appear

Defendant and Counsel remain ready, willing, and able to appear for deposition on mutually agreed dates in March 2026, well in advance of the June 30, 2026, deadline to complete depositions.

WHEREFORE, Defendant respectfully requests that the Court:

1. Deny Plaintiff's Motion for Default in its entirety;
2. Decline to award sanctions or costs;
3. Direct the parties to coordinate deposition scheduling within the discovery period; and
4. Grant such other relief as justice requires.

DEFENDANT



His Attorney Robert A. Salerno

ORDER

After hearing had, the foregoing Motion is hereby ordered:

GRANTED/DENIED _____.

BY THE COURT

CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was sent to the pro se party and counsel of record
by email this 19th day of February , 2026: Attorney John R. Williams
jrw@johnwilliams.com; Jon Goodwin Email: jgoodwin@protonmail.ch

/s/ 430824

Robert A. Salerno
Commissioner of the Superior Court

Exhibit A.

DOCKET NO: LLI-CV-21-5014019-S : SUPERIOR COURT
JON GOODWIN, ET AL : J.D. OF LITCHFIELD
V. : AT TORRINGTON
HEATHER WALSH, ET AL : JANUARY 12, 2026

RE-NOTICE OF DEPOSITION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff, **Jon Goodwin**, in the above-entitled matter, will take the deposition of the Defendant, **Raymond J. Milot**, on **February 13th**, at **9:30 a.m.** using remote means, before a court reporter or other competent authority. The deposition will continue from day to day until completed.

Your lawyer is invited to attend and cross-examine.

AND you are further requested to produce, in advance of the deposition, all completed written interrogatories, signed by Christine M. Jowdy under oath related to Dkt. No. LLI-CV22-5014373-S JOWDY, CHRISTINE M. v. MILOT, JR., RAYMOND J., along with all materials provided to you in response to any requests for production which you received from Christine M. Jowdy in that matter.

JON GOODWIN

By: /s/ Jon Goodwin
Plaintiff in Pro Se
34 N Franklin Ave., Box 687-2690
Pinedale WY 82941
jgoodwin@protonmail.com

Exhibit B.

Leah Strachan

From: Robert Salerno
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 3:51 PM
To: Jon Goodwin
Cc: Leah Strachan; John R Williams
Subject: RE: RE: Goodwin, Jon A. v Milot, Raymond et al (LLI-CV-21-5014019-S)
Categories: Smokeball

Mr. Goodwin,

See my prior email. You are clearly allowed to seek redress. In the meantime, I would suggest we schedule a future date. I have jury selection at the end of the month, and a jury trial starting the first week of March. My next trial is with Ms. Jowdy at the end of March. Please let me know when, after the first week of March and before the end of March, you have availability.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Salerno

Conti, Levy, Salerno & Goodrich, LLC
Attorneys at Law
355 Prospect Street
P.O. Box 239
Torrington, CT 06790
Phone: 860-482-4451
Fax: 860-489-6306

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From: Jon Goodwin <jgoodwin@protonmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2026 3:32 PM
To: Robert Salerno <rsalerno@contilevylaw.com>