

Rule 66. Frivolous Actions; Sanctions; Vexatious Litigators

- (A) If the Court, sua sponte or on motion by a party, determines that a complaint, application, motion, or pleading is frivolous or is filed for delay, harassment, or any other improper purpose, it may impose appropriate sanctions on the person who signed the complaint, application, motion, or pleading. The sanctions may include an award to the opposing party of reasonable expenses, reasonable attorney fees, costs or double costs, or any other sanction the Court considers just. A complaint, application, motion, or pleading shall be considered frivolous if it is not reasonably well-grounded in fact or warranted by existing law or a good-faith argument for the extension, modification, or reversal of existing law.
- (B) If a party habitually, persistently, and without reasonable cause engages in frivolous conduct under division (A) of this rule, the Court may, sua sponte or on motion by a party, find the party to be a vexatious litigator. If the Court determines that a party is a vexatious litigator under this rule, the Court may impose filing restrictions on the party. The restrictions may include prohibiting the party from continuing or instituting legal proceedings in the Court without first obtaining leave, prohibiting the filing of actions in this Court without the filing fee or security costs required by Local Rule 25, or any other restriction the Court considers just.
- (C) Any party that has been declared a vexatious litigator under this rule or Revised Code 2323.52, must seek leave of court to proceed with any original or continuing legal proceeding that is filed in this Court. The failure to comply with R.C. 2323.52(F)(1) shall result in the dismissal of any action as filed by a party that has been declared a vexatious litigator.