

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

JOHN DOE,	:	CASE NO. 1:20-cv-1002
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
	:	
vs.	:	ORDER
	:	
JANE DOE,	:	
	:	
Defendant.	:	

JAMES S. GWIN, UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE:

On March 12, 2020, Plaintiff John Doe sued Defendant Jane Doe in the Lorain County Court of Common Pleas.¹ On May 8, 2020, Defendant removed the case to this Court.²

[Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 10](#) requires complaints to state the parties' names.³ Only in limited circumstances may a court permit the parties to proceed pseudonymously.⁴ Unless the parties seek this permission, however, federal courts lack jurisdiction over the unnamed parties.⁵ Here, neither party has requested permission to proceed under pseudonyms.

The Court hereby **ORDERS** both parties to file briefing on whether they can proceed anonymously. Both parties' briefs are due within seven calendar days.

¹ Doc. [1-1](#).

² Doc. [1](#).

³ Fed. R. Civ. P. 10(a); see *Doe v. Porter*, 370 F.3d 558, 560 (6th Cir. 2004) ("As a general matter, a complaint must state the names of all parties.").

⁴ *Doe v. Porter*, 370 F.3d 558, 560 (6th Cir. 2004) (listing circumstances which may warrant pseudonymous litigation).

⁵ *Nat'l Commodity & Barter Ass'n, Nat'l Commodity Exch. V. Gibbs*, 886 F.2d 1240, 1245 (10th Cir. 1989); see also *Citizens for a Strong Ohio v. Marsh*, 123 F. App'x 630, 637 (6th Cir. 2005) (citing *Nat'l Commodity*, 866 F.2d at 1245).

Case Nos. 1:20-cv-1002
Gwin, J.

IT IS SO ORDERED

Dated: June 3, 2020

s/ James S. Gwin

JAMES S. GWIN
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE