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Deering's California Codes Annotated  
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CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE  
Part 4. Miscellaneous Provisions  
Title 4. Civil Discovery Act  
Chapter 2. Scope of Discovery  
Article 1. General Provisions

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*Cal Code Civ Proc § 2017.020 (2012)*

**§ 2017.020. When court may limit scope of discovery; Motion for protective order; Monetary sanction**

(a) The court shall limit the scope of discovery if it determines that the burden, expense, or intrusiveness of that discovery clearly outweighs the likelihood that the information sought will lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The court may make this determination pursuant to a motion for protective order by a party or other affected person. This motion shall be accompanied by a meet and confer declaration under Section 2016.040.

(b) The court shall impose a monetary sanction under Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 2023.010) against any party, person, or attorney who unsuccessfully makes or opposes a motion for a protective order, unless it finds that the one subject to the sanction acted with substantial justification or that other circumstances make the imposition of the sanction unjust.

**HISTORY:**

Added Stats 2004 ch 182 § 23 (AB 3081), operative July 1, 2005.

**NOTES:**

**Historical Derivation:**

Former CCP § 2017(c), added Stats 1986 ch 1334 § 2, amended Stats 1987 ch 86 § 2, Stats 1988 ch 160 § 19, ch 553 § 1 (ch 553 prevails), Stats 2001 ch 812 § 9.4.

**Law Revision Commission Comments:**

**2004**