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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

)	Case No. CV -ODW(x)
)	
Plaintiff(s),)	SCHEDULING AND CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER
)	FOR CASES ASSIGNED TO JUDGE OTIS D. WRIGHT
vs.)	II
)	
)	
Defendant(s).)	
)	

This Order is to advise the parties and counsel of the schedule that will govern this case. **THE SCHEDULING CONFERENCE IS VACATED. SEE THE LAST PAGE OF THIS ORDER FOR THE SPECIFIED DATES.** Ordinarily, the dates set forth on the last page are determined after consultation with the parties at the Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b) Scheduling Conference. The dates and requirements are firm. The Court is unlikely to grant continuances, even if stipulated by the parties, unless the parties establish good cause through a concrete showing.

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IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. To secure the just, speedy and inexpensive determination of every action, all counsel are ordered to familiarize themselves with and follow the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Local Rules of the Central District of California. This Court follows these rules and they will govern this litigation.

2. Because this Order in some respects modifies or adds to the Local Rules, counsel are advised to read it carefully. Counsel are advised to pay particular attention to the requirements of the Court with respect to the filing of motions for summary judgment and documents to be submitted at the Final Pretrial Conference and Trial.

3. The attorney attending any proceeding before this court must be an attorney who is thoroughly knowledgeable about the case, responsible for the conduct of the litigation, and who has authority to enter into stipulations and to make admissions regarding all matters that the participants reasonably anticipate may be discussed. Lead counsel who will actually try the case must attend the Pretrial Conference. A party who is not represented must attend all proceedings in person.

4. **COURTESY COPIES:** Courtesy copies of all electronically filed documents are to be delivered to the courtesy box outside chambers by 3:00 p.m. the following business day. Any original filings (such as under seal documents) are to be filed at the filing window (Clerk's Office, Room G-19), NOT in chambers and NOT in the courtroom.

Courtesy copies DO NOT need to be blue-backed. All courtesy copies of pretrial documents (e.g. witness lists, exhibit lists, pretrial conference orders, jury instructions, etc.) shall be three-hole punched.

5. **DISCOVERY CUT-OFF:** All discovery shall be completed by the discovery cut-off date specified on the last page of this Order. **THIS IS NOT THE DATE BY WHICH DISCOVERY REQUESTS MUST BE SERVED; IT IS THE DATE BY WHICH ALL DISCOVERY IS TO BE COMPLETED.**

Any motion challenging the adequacy of responses to discovery must be heard sufficiently in advance of the discovery cut-off date to permit the responses to be obtained before that date if the

1 motion is granted. In an effort to provide further guidance to the parties, the Court notes the
2 following:

3 a. **Depositions:** All depositions shall be scheduled to commence sufficiently in
4 advance of the discovery cut-off date to permit their completion and to permit the deposing party
5 enough time to bring any discovery motions concerning the deposition prior to the cut-off date.

6 b. **Written Discovery:** All interrogatories, requests for production of documents,
7 and requests for admissions shall be served sufficiently in advance of the discovery cut-off date to
8 permit the discovering party enough time to challenge (via motion practice) responses deemed to be
9 deficient.

10 c. **Discovery Motions:** Whenever possible, the Court expects the parties to
11 resolve discovery issues among themselves in a courteous, reasonable and professional manner. The
12 Magistrate Judge assigned to this case will rule on discovery motions. (The Magistrate Judge's initials
13 follow the district judge's initials next to the case number on the first page of this Order.) Counsel are
14 directed to contact the Magistrate Judge's courtroom deputy clerk (CRD) to schedule a hearing on
15 any discovery related matters. Counsel should not deliver courtesy copies of these discovery
16 documents to this court.

17 d. **Expert Discovery:** If expert witnesses are to be called at trial, the parties shall
18 designate affirmative experts to be called at trial and provide reports required by Fed. R. Civ. P.
19 26(a)(2)(B) not later than eight weeks prior to the discovery cut-off date. Rebuttal expert witnesses
20 shall be designated and reports provided as required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(B) not later than five
21 weeks prior to the discovery cut-off date. Failure to timely comply with deadlines may result in the
22 expert being excluded as a trial witness.

23 6. **MOTIONS AND MOTION CUT-OFF DATE**

24 a. **General Provisions:** All law and motion matters, except for motions in limine,
25 must be set for hearing (not filing) by the motion cut-off date specified on the last page of this Order.

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27 This Court hears motions in civil matters on Mondays, beginning at 1:30 p.m.

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1 The parties must adhere to the requirements of the Local Rules. See Local Rules 7-1 et seq.
2 If any party does not oppose a motion, that party shall submit a written statement that it does not
3 oppose the motion in accordance with Local Rule 7-9. The parties should note that failure to meet
4 the time limits for filing an opposition set forth in Local Rule 7-9 shall be deemed consent to the
5 granting of the motion. See Local Rule 7-12.

6 The title page of all motions must state the Pre-Trial Conference date and the Trial date.
7 Counsel must comply with Local Rule 7-3, which requires counsel to engage in a pre-filing conference
8 "to discuss thoroughly . . . the substance of the contemplated motion and any potential resolution."

9 Issues left undetermined after the passage of the motion cut-off date should be listed as issues
10 for trial in the Final Pre-Trial Conference Order. As an exception to the above, motions in limine
11 dealing with evidentiary matters may be heard pursuant to the schedule specified on the last page
12 of this Order.

13 Ex parte practice is discouraged. See *Mission Power Eng'g v Co. vs. Continental Cas. Co.*, 883
14 F. Supp. 488 (C.D. Cal. 1995). The Court will require strict adherence to proper ex parte procedures
15 for any ex parte application filed with the Court. *Id.* at 492; see also Judge Wright's Standing Order
16 and Local Rule 7-19.

17 b. **Applications and Stipulations to Extend Time**: Applications to extend the time
18 to file any required document or to continue any hearing, Pre-Trial Conference or Trial date must set
19 forth the following:

- 20 (i) the existing due date or hearing date, as well as the discovery
21 cut-off date, the Pre-Trial Conference date, and the Trial date;
- 22 (ii) specific, concrete reasons supporting good cause for granting
23 the extension; and
- 24 (iii) whether there have been prior requests for extensions, and
25 whether these requests were granted or denied by the Court.

26 c. **Joinder of Parties and Amendment of Pleadings**: The deadline for joining
27 parties and amending pleadings is ninety days after the date of this Order. Any motions to join other
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1 parties or for leave to amend the pleadings shall be filed within sixty days of the date of this Order so
2 that they can be heard and decided prior to the deadline.

3 In addition to the requirements of Local Rule 15-1, all motions to amend the pleadings shall:
4 (1) state the effect of the amendment; (2) be serially numbered to differentiate the amendment from
5 previous amendments; and (3) state the page, line number(s), and wording of any proposed change
6 or addition of material.

7 The parties shall deliver to Chambers a redlined version of the proposed amended pleading
8 indicating all additions and deletions of material.

9 d. **Summary Judgment Motions:** Parties need not wait until the motion cutoff to
10 bring motions for summary judgment or partial summary judgment. However, the court expects that
11 the party moving for summary judgment will provide more than the minimum twenty-eight (28) day
12 notice for motions. Because summary judgment motions are fact-dependent, parties should prepare
13 papers in a fashion that will assist the court in absorbing the mass of facts (*e.g.*, generous use of tabs,
14 tables of contents, headings, indices, etc.). The parties are to comply precisely with Local Rule 56-1
15 through 56-4. The Court will also require adherence to the following requirements:

16 (i) **Statement of Uncontroverted Facts and Statement of**
17 **Genuine Issues of Material Fact:**

18 The Separate Statement of Uncontroverted Facts is to be prepared in a two column format.
19 The left-hand column should set forth the allegedly undisputed fact. The right-hand column should
20 set forth the evidence that supports the factual statement. The factual statements should be set forth
21 in sequentially numbered paragraphs. Each paragraph should contain a narrowly focused statement
22 of fact. Each numbered paragraph should address a single subject in as concise a manner as possible.

23 The opposing party's Statement of Genuine Issues of Material Fact must be in two columns
24 and track the movant's Separate Statement exactly as prepared. The document must be in two
25 columns; the left-hand column must restate the allegedly undisputed fact, and the right-hand column
26 must indicate either undisputed or disputed. The opposing party may dispute all or only a portion of
27 the statement, but if disputing only a portion, must clearly indicate what part is being disputed.
28 Where the opposing party is disputing the fact in whole or part, the opposing party must, in the

1 right-hand column, label and restate the moving party's evidence in the support of the fact, followed
2 by the opposing party's evidence controverting the fact. Where the opposing party is disputing the
3 fact on the basis of an evidentiary objection, the party must cite the evidence alleged to be
4 objectionable and state the ground of the objection and nothing more. **No argument should be set
5 forth in this document.**

6 The opposing party may submit additional material facts that bear on or relate to the issues
7 raised by the movant, which shall follow the format described above for the moving party's Separate
8 Statement. These additional facts shall follow the movant's facts, shall continue in sequentially
9 numbered paragraphs (i.e. if movant's last statement of fact was set forth in paragraph 30, then the
10 first new fact will be set forth in paragraph 31), and shall set forth in the right-hand column the
11 evidence that supports that statement.

12 The moving party, in its reply, shall respond to the additional facts in the same manner and
13 format that the opposing party is required to adhere to in responding to the Statement of
14 Uncontroverted Facts, as described above.

15 (ii) Supporting Evidence. No party should submit any evidence other than
16 the specific items of evidence or testimony necessary to support or controvert a proposed statement
17 of undisputed fact. Thus, for example, the entire transcripts of depositions and/or entire sets of
18 interrogatory responses should generally not be submitted in support of or in opposition to a motion
19 for summary judgment.

20 Evidence submitted in support of or in opposition to a motion for summary judgment should
21 be submitted either by way of stipulation or as exhibits to a declaration sufficient to authenticate the
22 proffered evidence, and should not be attached to the memorandum of points and authorities. The
23 Court will accept counsel's authentication of deposition transcripts, written discovery responses, and
24 the receipt of documents in discovery if the fact that the document was in the opponent's possession
25 is of independent significance. Documentary evidence as to which there is no stipulation regarding
26 foundation must be accompanied by the testimony, either by declaration or properly authenticated
27 deposition transcript, of a witness who can establish its authenticity.

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1 All evidence in support of or in opposition to a motion for summary judgment, including
2 declarations and exhibits to declarations, shall be separated by a tab divider on the bottom of the
3 page. If evidence in support of or in opposition to a motion for summary judgment exceeds twenty
4 pages, the evidence must be in a separately bound volume and include a Table of Contents. If the
5 supporting evidence exceeds fifty pages, the documents shall be placed in a Slant D-Ring binder with
6 each item of evidence separated by a tab divider on the right side. All documents contained in the
7 binder should be three-hole-punched.

8 (iii) Objections to Evidence. If a party disputes a fact based in whole or in
9 part on an evidentiary objection, the ground for the objection, as indicated above, should be stated
10 in the Separate Statement, but not argued in that document. Evidentiary objections should be
11 addressed in a separate memorandum to be filed with the opposition or reply brief of the party. This
12 memorandum should be organized **to track the paragraph numbers of the Separate Statement in**
13 **sequence.** It should identify the specific item of evidence to which objection is made, the ground for
14 the objection, and a very brief argument with citation to authority as to why the objection is well
15 taken. The following is an example of the format contemplated by the Court:

16 Separate Statement Paragraph 1: Objection to the supporting deposition transcript
17 of Jane Smith at 60:1-10 on the grounds that the statement constitutes inadmissible hearsay and no
18 exception is applicable. To the extent it is offered to prove her state of mind, it is irrelevant since her
19 state of mind is not in issue. Fed. R. Evid. 801, 802.

20 **DO NOT SUBMIT BLANKET OR BOILERPLATE OBJECTIONS TO THE OPPONENT'S STATEMENTS OF**
21 **UNDISPUTED FACT. THESE WILL BE DISREGARDED AND OVERRULED.**

22 (iv) The Memorandum of Points and Authorities.

23 The movant's memorandum of points and authorities should be in the usual form required
24 under Local Rule 7 and should contain a narrative statement of facts as to those aspects of the case
25 that are before the Court. All facts should be supported with citations to the paragraph number in
26 the Separate Statement that supports the factual assertion.

27 Unless the case involves some unusual twist, the motion need only contain a brief statement
28 of the Fed. R. Civ. P. 56 standard; the Court is familiar with the Rule and with its interpretation under

1 *Celotex* and its progeny. If at all possible, the argument should be organized to focus on the pertinent
2 elements of the claim(s) for relief or defense(s) in issue, with the purpose of showing the existence
3 or non-existence of a genuine issue of material fact for trial on that element of the claim or defense.

4 Likewise, the opposition memorandum of points and authorities should be in the usual form
5 required by Local Rule 7. Where the opposition memorandum sets forth facts, the memorandum
6 should cite to paragraphs in the Separate Statement if they are not in dispute, to the evidence that
7 contravenes the fact where the fact is in dispute, or, if the fact is contravened by an additional fact
8 in the Statement of Genuine Issues of Material Fact, the citation should be to such fact by paragraph
9 number.

10 (v) Proposed Statement of Decision. Each party shall file and serve a
11 Proposed Statement of Decision, which shall contain a statement of the relevant facts and applicable
12 law with citations to case law and the record. The Proposed Statement of Decision shall not exceed
13 five pages and shall be in a form that would be appropriate for the Court to enter as its final order on
14 the motion.

15 (vi) Timing. In virtually every case, the Court expects that the moving party
16 will provide more than the minimum twenty-one day notice for such motions. **[NOTE: Parties need
17 not wait until the motion cut-off to bring motions for summary judgment or partial summary
18 judgment. Early completion of non-expert discovery and filing of motions for summary judgment
19 may eliminate or reduce the need for expensive expert depositions that are normally conducted
20 in the last stages of discovery.]**

21 e. Avoid Composite Motions. Unless clearly justified under the circumstances of
22 the case, "motions to dismiss or in the alternative for summary adjudication" are discouraged. These
23 composite motions tend to blur the distinctions between the two motions.

24 f. Motions in Limine. Before filing any motion in limine, counsel for the parties
25 shall confer pursuant to Local Rule 7-3 in a good faith effort to eliminate the necessity for hearing the
26 motion in limine or to eliminate as many of the disputes as possible. It shall be the responsibility of
27 counsel for the moving party to arrange for this conference. The motion papers must include a
28 declaration showing a good faith meet and confer effort. The conference shall take place in person

1 within ten calendar days of service upon opposing counsel of a letter requesting such a conference,
2 but in no event later than twenty-one days before the Pre-Trial Conference. If both counsel are not
3 located in the same county in the Central District, the conference may take place by telephone.

4 If counsel are unable to resolve their differences, they shall prepare a separate, sequentially
5 numbered Motion in Limine for each issue in dispute which contains a clear caption which identifies
6 the moving party and the nature of the dispute (i.e., "Plaintiff's Motion in Limine #1 to exclude the
7 testimony of Defendant's expert"). The Motion in Limine shall contain a clear identification of the
8 testimony, exhibits, or other specific matters alleged to be inadmissible and/or prejudicial and a
9 statement of the specific prejudice that will be suffered by the moving party if the motion is not
10 granted. The identification of the matters in dispute shall be followed by the moving party's
11 contentions and memorandum of points and authorities. The title page of the Motion in Limine must
12 state the Pre-Trial Conference date, hearing date for the motions in limine, and the trial date.

13 Motions in Limine made for the purpose of precluding the mention or display of inadmissible
14 and/or prejudicial matter in the presence of the jury shall be accompanied by a declaration that
15 includes the following: (1) a clear identification of the specific matter alleged to be inadmissible
16 and/or prejudicial; (2) a representation to the Court that the subject of the motion in limine has been
17 discussed with opposing counsel, and that opposing counsel has either indicated that such matter will
18 be mentioned or displayed in the presence of the jury before it is admitted in evidence or that counsel
19 has refused to stipulate that such matter will not be mentioned or displayed in the presence of the
20 jury unless and until it is admitted in evidence; and (3) a statement of the specific prejudice that will
21 be suffered by the moving party if the motion in limine is not granted. Unless ordered otherwise,
22 the Court will only consider the moving papers and any opposition thereto. No replies are necessary.

23
24 All evidence in support of or in opposition to a motion in limine, including declarations and
25 exhibits to declarations, shall be separated by a tab divider on the bottom of the page. If evidence
26 in support of or in opposition to a motion in limine exceeds twenty pages, the evidence must be in
27 a separately bound volume and include a Table of Contents. Though strongly discouraged, if by
28 necessity the supporting evidence exceeds fifty pages, the documents shall be placed in a Slant D-Ring

1 binder with each item of evidence separated by a tab divider on the right side. All documents
2 contained in the binder should be three-hole-punched.

3 Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, motions in limine will be heard on the date specified
4 on the last page of this Order. The moving party shall file with the Court and serve its Motion in
5 Limine on the responding party on or before the date for filing of motions in limine indicated in the
6 Schedule of Trial and Pre-trial Dates. The responding party shall then file with the Court and serve an
7 opposition to the Motion in Limine on the moving party at least seven (7) days prior to the date for
8 the hearing on motions in limine. Neither party's submissions with respect to a Motion in Limine shall
9 exceed eight (8) pages.

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7. **FINAL PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE AND LOCAL RULE 16 FILINGS**

Please read this portion carefully, as there are some differences between the Court's requirements and the Local Rules.

a. **General Provisions.**

The Final Pre-Trial Conference ("PTC") will be held on the date specified on the last page of this Order, unless the Court expressly waived the PTC at the Scheduling Conference. (In the rare cases where the Court waives a PTC, the parties must follow Local Rule 16-10.) If adjustments in the Court's calendar to accommodate congestion become necessary, the Court may re-schedule the PTC instead of the trial date. Therefore, the parties should assume that if the PTC goes forward, the trial will go forward without continuance, although some brief period of trailing may prove necessary.

The lead trial attorney on behalf of each party shall attend both the PTC and all meetings of the parties in preparation for the PTC, unless excused for good cause shown in advance of the PTC.

A continuance of the PTC at the parties' request or by stipulation is highly unlikely. **Specifically, failure to complete discovery is not a ground for continuance.** In the unlikely event that the Court agrees to continue the PTC, the trial date is likely to be delayed as a result. If a change to the trial date is necessitated or likely because of the Court's calendar or otherwise, modifications of that date will be discussed at the PTC.

1 At the PTC, the parties should be prepared to discuss means of streamlining the trial, including,
2 but not limited to the following: bifurcation; presentation of foundational and non-critical testimony
3 and direct testimony by deposition excerpts; narrative summaries and/or stipulations as to the
4 content of testimony; presentation of testimony on direct examination by affidavit or by declaration
5 subject to cross-examination; and qualification of experts by admitted resumes. The Court will also
6 discuss settlement.

7 b. **Final Pretrial Conference Order (“PTCO”)**

8 The proposed PTCO shall be lodged seven calendar days before the PTC. Adherence to this
9 time requirement is necessary for in-chambers preparation of the matter. The form of the proposed
10 PTCO shall comply with Appendix A to the Local Rules and the following:

11 1. Place in “ALL CAPS” and in “**bold**” the separately numbered headings for each
12 category in the PTCO (*e.g.*, “**1. THE PARTIES**” or “**7. CLAIMS AND DEFENSES**
13 **OF THE PARTIES**”).

14 2. Include a table of contents at the beginning.

15 3. In specifying the surviving pleadings under section 1, state which
16 claims or counterclaims have been dismissed or abandoned, *e.g.*, “Plaintiff’s second cause of action
17 for breach of fiduciary duty has been dismissed.” Also, in multiple party cases where not all claims
18 or counterclaims will be prosecuted against all remaining parties on the opposing side, please specify
19 to which party each claim or counterclaim is directed.

20 4. In specifying the parties’ claims and defenses under section 7, each
21 party shall closely follow the examples set forth in Appendix A of the Local Rules.

22 5. In drafting the PTCO, the court expects that the parties will attempt to
23 to agree on and set forth as many non-contested facts as possible. The court will usually read the
24 uncontested facts to the jury at the start of trial. A carefully drafted and comprehensively stated
25 stipulation of facts will reduce the length of trial and increase jury understanding of the case. It is
26 unacceptable for the parties to indicate in the Proposed Pretrial Conference Order that they are not
27 able to stipulate to any facts whatever.

28 6. In drafting the factual issues in dispute for the PTCO, the parties

1 should attempt to state issues in ultimate fact form, not in the form of evidentiary fact issues. The
2 issues of fact should track the elements of a claim or defense on which the jury will be required to
3 make findings.

4 7. Issues of law should state legal issues on which the court will be required
5 to rule during the trial, and should not list ultimate fact issues to be submitted to the trier of fact.

6 8. The Court may submit fact issues to the jury in the form of findings on a special
7 verdict. The issues of fact should track the elements of a claim or defense on which the jury will be
8 required to make findings.

9 9. If expert witnesses are to be called at trial, each party must list and identify its
10 respective expert witnesses, both retained and non-retained. Failure of a party to list and identify an
11 expert witness in the PTCO could result in a court order which precludes the party from calling that
12 expert witness at trial.

13 c. **Rule 16 Filings; Memoranda; Witness Lists; Exhibit Lists.**

14 Unless otherwise indicated, the parties must comply fully with the requirements of
15 Local Rule 16. See the last page of this Order for applicable dates. Memorandum of
16 Contentions of Fact and Law:

17 Memoranda of Contentions of Fact and Law shall be filed by the date listed in this Scheduling
18 Order, and shall comply with the requirements set forth in Local Rule 16-4.

19 Witnesses:

20 Counsel shall prepare a **joint** list of their witnesses, including a brief summary (two to three
21 paragraphs) of each witness's expected testimony, **what makes the testimony unique** from any other
22 witness testimony, an estimate of the length of time needed for direct examination of each side's own
23 witnesses and an estimate for the cross examination of opposing witnesses, and whether the witness
24 will testify by deposition or in person. The joint witness list shall be filed at the same time counsel
25 lodge the PTC Order. If a party intends to offer deposition testimony into evidence at trial, the party
26 shall designate the relevant portions of the deposition testimony to be read at trial and advise
27 opposing counsel of same. Opposing counsel shall then designate any additional portions of such
28 deposition testimony which counsel intends to offer in evidence. All objections to any such testimony

1 shall be made in writing and filed at the same time counsel lodge the PTC Order so that the Court may
2 consider whether ruling on the objections will facilitate trial or result in the disposition of evidentiary
3 matters that may assist continuing settlement negotiations.

4 If expert witnesses are to be called at trial, each party shall list and identify their respective
5 expert witnesses. Failure of a party to list and identify an expert witness may preclude a party from
6 calling that expert witness at trial. If expert witnesses are to be called at trial, the parties shall
7 exchange at the PTC short narrative statements of the qualifications of the expert and the testimony
8 expected to be elicited at trial. Previously prepared and exchanged expert reports shall not substitute
9 for the narrative statements required.

10 Exhibits:

11 The parties shall prepare a Pre-Trial Exhibit Stipulation that shall contain each party's
12 numbered list of all trial exhibits, with objections, if any, to each exhibit including the basis of the
13 objection and the offering party's response. All exhibits to which there is no objection shall be
14 deemed admitted. The parties shall stipulate to the authenticity of exhibits whenever possible, and
15 the Pre-Trial Exhibit Stipulation shall identify any exhibits for which authenticity has not been
16 stipulated to and the specific reasons for the party's failure to stipulate.

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19 The Stipulation shall be substantially in the following form:

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Pre-Trial Exhibit Stipulation

22 **Plaintiff(s)/Defendant(s) Exhibits**

23 **Number Description If Objection, State Grounds Response to Objection**

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25 The Pre-Trial Exhibit Stipulation shall be filed at the same time counsel lodge the (Proposed)
26 PTC Order. Failure to comply with this paragraph could be deemed to constitute a waiver of all
27 objections. **Do not submit** blanket or boilerplate objections to the opposing party's exhibits. These

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1 will be disregarded and overruled. NOTE: Counsel are instructed not to bring excessive exhibits to
2 trial, but only those exhibits that are reasonably expected to actually be used.

3
4 Jury Instructions/Special Verdict Forms

5 The parties shall make every attempt to agree upon the jury instructions before submitting
6 them to the Court. It is expected that counsel will agree on the substantial majority of jury
7 instructions. This is in addition to the standard cautionary and introductory instructions regarding
8 duties of the jury, the order of the trial, etc. found in Chapters 1, 2 & 3 of the *9th Circuit Manual of*
9 *Model Jury Instructions*. The court requires little or no assistance in the preparation of these
10 instructions. Counsels' attention should be focused on reaching agreement on the instructions
11 covering the substantive legal issues. It is anticipated that working diligently and cooperatively
12 counsel will be able to reach agreement on the vast majority of the substantive instructions. Judicial
13 involvement will be limited to resolving disputes on only a few instructions on which the parties are
14 unable to agree.

15 On the date listed in this Scheduling Order, counsel shall file with the Court a JOINT set of jury
16 instructions on which there is agreement. Defendant's counsel has the burden of preparing the joint
17 set of jury instructions. At the same time each party shall file its proposed jury instructions which are
18 objected to by any other party, accompanied by points and authorities in support of those
19 instructions.

20 When the parties disagree on an instruction, the party opposing the instruction must attach
21 a short statement (one to two paragraphs) supporting the objection, and the party submitting the
22 instruction must attach a short reply supporting the instruction. Each statement should be on a
23 separate page and should follow directly after the disputed instruction.

24 The parties ultimately must submit one document, or if the parties disagree over any proposed
25 jury instructions, three documents. The three documents shall consist of: (1) a set of Joint Proposed
26 Jury Instructions; (2) Plaintiff's Disputed Jury Instructions; and (3) Defendant's Disputed Jury
27 Instructions. Any disputed Jury Instructions shall include the reasons supporting and opposing each
28 disputed instruction in the format set forth in the previous paragraph.

1 The Court directs counsel to use the instructions from the *Manual of Model Jury Instructions*
2 *for the Ninth Circuit* where applicable. Where California law is to be applied and the above
3 instructions are not applicable, the Court prefers counsel to use the California Jury Instructions in
4 CACI. If none of these sources is applicable, counsel are directed to use the instructions in Devitt,
5 Blackmar and Wolff, *Federal Jury Practice and Instructions*.

6 Modifications of instructions from the foregoing sources (or any other form instructions) must
7 specifically state the modification made to the original form instruction and the authority supporting
8 the modification.

9 Each requested instruction shall be in the format specified by Local Rule 51-2 and shall be set
10 forth in full; be on a separate page with the caption "COURT'S INSTRUCTION NUMBER ____"; be
11 numbered; cover only one subject or principle of law; not repeat principles of law contained in any
12 other requested instructions; and cite the authority for a source of the requested instruction. In
13 addition to the foregoing, each party shall file with the Courtroom Deputy Clerk (CRD) on the first day
14 of trial a "clean set" of the aforesaid requested duplicate jury instructions. The "clean set" shall not
15 cite the authority for a source of the requested instruction.

16
17 An index page shall accompany all jury instructions submitted to the Court. The index page
18 shall indicate the following:

- 19 • the number of the instruction;
- 20 • a brief title of the instruction;
- 21 • the source of the instruction and any relevant case citation; and
- 22 • the page number of the instruction.

23 **EXAMPLE:**

24 <u>NO.</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
25 5	Evidence for Limited Purpose	9 th Cir. 1.5	9

26
27 During the trial and again before argument, the Court will meet with counsel and settle the
28 instructions. Strict adherence to time requirements is necessary for the Court to examine the

1 submissions in advance so that there will be no delay in starting the jury trial, or the final instructions
2 to the jury and the closing arguments of counsel.. **Failure of counsel to strictly follow the provisions**
3 **of this section may subject the non-complying party and/or its attorney to sanctions and SHALL**
4 **CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL in all civil cases.**

5 Joint Statement of the Case and Requests for Voir Dire

6 At the PTC, the parties shall file their proposed voir dire questions and their joint Statement
7 of the Case which the Court will read to all prospective jurors prior to the commencement of voir dire.
8 The statement should not be longer than two or three paragraphs, and contain no argument nor an
9 excessive amount of information. The Statement of the Case is merely to advise the prospective
10 jurors of the general nature of the case, i.e. securities law violations, bank robbery, copyright
11 infringement, etc.

12 The Court conducts voir dire of all prospective jurors. The parties need not submit requests
13 for standard voir dire questions such as education, current occupations, marital status, prior jury
14 service, etc., but should include only proposed questions specifically tailored to the parties and issues
15 of the case.

16 Trial Exhibits:

17 Counsel are to prepare their exhibits for presentation at the trial by placing them in binders
18 which are indexed by exhibit number with tabs or dividers on the right side. Counsel shall submit to
19 the Court an original and one copy of the binders. The exhibits shall be in a three-ring binder labeled
20 on the spine portion of the binder as to the volume number and contain an index of each exhibit
21 included in the volume. Exhibits must be numbered in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 16, 26 and the
22 Local Rules. **NOTE:** Counsel are instructed not to bring excessive exhibits to trial, but only those
23 exhibits that will actually be used.

24 The exhibit list shall indicate which exhibits are objected to, the reason for the objection, and
25 the reason it is admissible. Failure to object will result in a waiver of objection.

26 The Court requires that the following be submitted to the Courtroom Deputy Clerk on the first
27 day of trial:

28

- 1 • The original exhibits with the Court's exhibit tags, which shall be stapled to the front
2 of the exhibit on the upper right-hand corner with the case number, case name, and
3 exhibit number placed on each tag. Exhibit tags can be obtained from the Clerk's
4 Office, Room G-8, 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.
- 5 • One bench book with a copy of each exhibit for use by the Court, tabbed with numbers
6 as described above. (Court's exhibit tags not necessary.)
- 7 • Three (3) copies of the exhibit list.
- 8 • Three (3) copies of the witness list, which shall include the names of the witness in the
9 approximate order in which they may be called to testify.
- 10 • All counsel are to meet not later than ten (10) days before trial and to stipulate so far
11 as is possible as to foundation, waiver of the best evidence rule, and to those exhibits
12 which may be received into evidence at the start of trial. The exhibits to be so
13 received will be noted on the copies of the exhibit lists.
- 14 • Any items that have not been admitted into evidence and are left in the courtroom
15 overnight without prior approval will be discarded.

16
17 Real-Time Reporting Requirement

18 Each party must file with the Court, at the same time counsel lodges the PTCO, a document
19 for the Court Reporter that contains proper names, unusual or scientific terms, or any other foreign
20 or uncommon words that are likely to be used by the parties during the FPTC and the Trial.

21 d. Court Trials

22
23 Declarations of Witness Direct Testimony

24 Counsel in non-jury trials may submit the direct testimony of their witnesses in writing in a
25 declaration executed under penalty of perjury. These declarations shall be in admissible form with
26 appropriate foundation established for the declarant's statements. Paragraphs in each declaration
27 shall be numbered consecutively to facilitate the identification of paragraphs for evidentiary
28 objections.

1 Counsel are to exchange and file these declarations with the Court at least eleven calendar
2 days before trial, unless otherwise ordered by the Court. Seven calendar days before trial, counsel
3 may file evidentiary objections to those declarations. Counsel shall prepare a separate document for
4 each declaration for which they have an evidentiary objection in which they shall quote the specific
5 language from the declaration to which they object, followed by the objection and any relevant
6 argument. Counsel shall file any reply or response to the objections by noon on the fourth calendar
7 day before trial. Courtesy copies of the declarations and evidentiary objections shall be deposited in
8 the drop box located in the entrance way to Chambers on the date due. **Do not submit**
9 blanket or boilerplate objections to the opposing party's witness declarations. These will be
10 disregarded and overruled.

11 At trial, the Court will rule on the evidentiary objections and, depending upon the ruling, the
12 declarations will be received in evidence, either in whole or in part, or rejected. Counsel will then
13 conduct the cross-examination and re-direct examination at trial.

14 Failure to comply with the literal terms of this Order will result in sanctions or the Court may
15 refuse to allow that witness to testify.

16

17 Trial Briefs

18 Counsel for each party shall file and serve a trial brief, not to exceed 15 pages in length,
19 at least seven (7) days before the scheduled final pretrial conference.

20 Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

21 Counsel for each party shall lodge and serve initial proposed findings of fact and
22 conclusions of law with the trial brief. Counsel shall then:

- 23 (1) Underline in red the portions which it disputes;
24 (2) Underline in blue the portions which it admits; and
25 (3) Underline in yellow the portions which it does not dispute, but deems irrelevant.

26

27 Counsel may agree with a part of a finding or conclusion, disagree with a part of it, and/or
28 consider a part of it irrelevant.

1 Two marked copies of opposing counsel's proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law shall
2 be lodged with Court no later than seven (7) days after the final pretrial conference.

3 8. **SETTLEMENT**

4 This court will not conduct settlement conferences in non-jury cases unless counsel for
5 all parties and their respective clients agree either in writing or on the record. In jury cases, the Court
6 will conduct a settlement conference at the parties' joint request if three conditions exist:

- 7 (a) The parties are satisfied that the fact issues in the case will be tried by a jury;
- 8 (b) All significant pre-trial rulings which the Court must make have been made; and
- 9 (c) The parties desire the Court to conduct the conference, understanding that if settlement
10 fails, the Court will preside over trial of the case.

11 The parties must file a Status Report regarding settlement at the time they lodge the Proposed
12 Final Pre-Trial Conference Order. This Report shall not disclose the parties' settlement positions, i.e.
13 the terms of any offers or demands. It shall merely describe the efforts made by the parties to resolve
14 the dispute informally, i.e. the occasions and dates when the parties participated in mediation or
15 settlement conferences. The Status report shall also include the name and phone number of the
16 Settlement Officer who assisted the parties with their settlement conference.

17 **Caveat: If counsel fail to file the required Pre-Trial documents or fail to appear at the Pre-Trial
18 Conference and such failure is not otherwise satisfactorily explained to the Court: (a) the cause shall
19 stand dismissed for failure to prosecute if such failure occurs on the part of the plaintiff; (b) default
20 judgment shall be entered if such failure occurs on the part of the defendant; or (c) the Court may
21 take such action as it deems appropriate.**

22
23 Dated: March 13, 2012

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OTIS D. WRIGHT II
United States District Judge

**JUDGE OTIS D. WRIGHT II
SCHEDULE OF TRIAL AND PRE-TRIAL DATES**

Event	Date
Jury Trial at 9:00 a.m. Estimated length:	
Last Date to File Final Pretrial Exhibit Stipulation	
Hearing on Motions in Limine at 2:30 p.m.	
Pre-Trial Conference at 2:30 p.m.; Deadline to File Motions In Limine, Proposed Voir Dire Questions and an Agreed-to Statement of Case	
Deadline to: Lodge Proposed Pretrial Conference Order & Pretrial Exhibit Stipulation; File Contentions of Fact and Law, Exhibit and Witness Lists, Status Report Regarding Settlement, Agreed Upon Set of Jury Instructions and Verdict Forms, Joint Statement Re Disputed Jury Instructions, Verdicts, etc.	
Last date for hearing motions at 1:30 p.m.	
Last date to conduct Settlement Conference	
Discovery cut-off	
Last date to amend pleadings or add parties	

* Motions for class certification shall be filed in accordance with Local Rule 23-3.

Revised: 3/12