

ROBB EVANS & ASSOCIATES LLC

Receiver of

**World Traders Association, Inc.; United Traders Association, Inc.; International
Merchandise Group, Inc.; Trans-global Connection, Inc.; Musketeer Partners, Inc.;**
Fulfillment Options, Inc. and

Certain Real Property Assets of Sheldon Fidler and Judith T. Fidler

11450 Sheldon Street

Sun Valley, California 91352-1121

Telephone No.: (818) 768-8100

Facsimile No.: (818) 768-8802

Federal Trade Commission v. World Traders Association, Inc, et al.
CASE No. CV-05 0591 AHM (CTx)

Order Re:

Scheduling and Case Management

Filed July 31, 2006

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FILED
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
JUL 31 2006
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
BY [Signature] DEPUTY

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION,)
Plaintiff(s),
v.
WORLD TRADERS ASSOCIATION, INC., et al.,
Defendant(s).

CASE NO. CV05-591-AHM (CTx)
SCHEDULING AND CASE
MANAGEMENT ORDER
**SEE LAST PAGE FOR
PRETRIAL AND TRIAL DATES**

I. APPLICABLE SCHEDULE

This case shall be litigated according to the schedule on the last page. Ordinarily, those dates are determined after consultation with the parties at the Rule 26(f) Scheduling Conference, and this Order is distributed to them at that time. Accordingly, the dates and requirements are firm. The Court is very unlikely to grant continuances, even if stipulated by the parties, unless the parties establish good cause through a strong, concrete showing.

The following provisions sometimes refer to the Local Rules. **PLEASE NOTE THAT UNDER RULE 83-7, THE VIOLATION OR FAILURE TO CONFORM TO THE LOCAL RULES MAY SUBJECT THE OFFENDING PARTY OR COUNSEL TO A VARIETY OF SANCTIONS.**

DOCKETED ON CM
AUG - 1 2006
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1 **II. DISCOVERY AND DISCOVERY CUTOFF**

2 **A. Non-Expert Discovery**

3 All non-expert discovery shall be completed by the non-expert discovery
4 cutoff on the last page. **THIS IS NOT THE DATE BY WHICH DISCOVERY**
5 **REQUESTS MUST BE SERVED; IT IS THE DATE BY WHICH ALL**
6 **DISCOVERY IS TO BE COMPLETED.** Any motion challenging the adequacy
7 of responses to discovery must be filed, served and calendared sufficiently in
8 advance of the discovery cutoff date to permit the responses to be obtained before
9 that date, if the motion is granted.

10 In an effort to provide further guidance to the parties, the Court notes the
11 following:

12 1. Depositions. All depositions shall be scheduled to commence
13 sufficiently in advance of the discovery cutoff date to permit their
14 completion and to permit the deposing party enough time to bring any
15 discovery motions concerning the deposition prior to the cutoff date. Given
16 the requirements of notice and “meet and confer,” that means that in most
17 cases a planned motion to compel would have to be discussed with opposing
18 counsel approximately six weeks before the cutoff.

19 2. Written Discovery. All interrogatories, requests for production
20 of documents, and requests for admissions shall be served sufficiently in
21 advance of the discovery cutoff date to permit the discovering party enough
22 time to challenge (via motion practice) responses deemed to be deficient.

23 3. Discovery Motions. Whenever possible, the Court expects the
24 parties to resolve discovery problems among themselves in a courteous,
25 reasonable and professional manner. If they do so, resort to the Court for
26 guidance in discovery is seldom necessary.

27 The Magistrate Judge assigned to this case will rule on discovery
28 motions. The Court requires compliance with Local Rules 37-1 through 37-

1 4 in the preparation and filing of discovery motions. Any review of a
2 Magistrate Judge's discovery order must proceed by way of noticed motion
3 under Local Rule 7-3. In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(A), the
4 Court will not reverse any such order, *including one imposing sanctions*,
5 unless the moving party demonstrates that the Magistrate Judge's order "is
6 clearly erroneous or contrary to law." If this Court overrules a Magistrate
7 Judge's order denying discovery, the Discovery Cutoff will, upon
8 application, be extended.

9 4. Exceptions to Discovery Cutoff. The Court establishes a
10 discovery cutoff date to facilitate the timely, efficient and just resolution of
11 this case. So long as that objective is in no way impeded, and provided that
12 the parties meet the other conditions in this paragraph, the parties are
13 permitted to conduct discovery beyond the cutoff date. These conditions
14 are: (a) no discovery motions resulting from post-cutoff discovery disputes
15 may be brought and (b) the fact that discovery is being conducted after the
16 cutoff will not be cause for continuing the trial date or for not complying
17 with the other deadlines and requirements in this order. Thus, parties
18 conducting discovery after the cutoff accept the risk that they will not be
19 able to enforce their rights in the event of a dispute.

20 **B. Expert Discovery**

21 If expert discovery necessitates motion practice which cannot be resolved
22 until after the deadlines set forth below for motion practice, then those deadlines
23 shall not apply. But because Local Rules 7-3 and 37-1 require ample time to meet
24 and confer as well as brief the matters, the parties should commence expert
25 discovery shortly after the initial designations of experts, because in no event will
26 the Final Pre-Trial Conference and trial dates be continued merely because expert
27 discovery is still underway.

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1 **III. MOTIONS AND MOTION CUTOFF DATE**

2 **A. General Provisions.**

3 Motions are heard on Mondays at 10:00 a.m., unless the Court orders
4 otherwise. If Monday is a national holiday, the motion will not be heard the next
5 day (Tuesday) but instead automatically set for the next succeeding Monday.

6 All law and motion matters, except for motions in limine, must be set for
7 hearing (not filing) by the motion cutoff date specified on the last page. Issues left
8 undetermined after the passage of the motion cutoff date should be listed as issues
9 for trial in the final pre-trial conference order. As an exception to the above,
10 motions in limine dealing with evidentiary matters may be heard at the Final Pre-
11 Trial Conference or (at the Court's discretion) at the start of trial; however, the
12 Court will not hear or resolve summary judgment motions disguised as motions in
13 limine.

14 The applicable Local Rules are Rules 7-1, *et seq.* If any party does not
15 oppose a motion, that party shall submit a written statement that it does not oppose
16 the motion, in accordance with Local Rule 7-16. Failure to meet the time limits set
17 forth in Local Rule 7 may be deemed consent to the granting of the motion. Local
18 Rule 7-12. The Court will not decide late-filed motions, and a party or counsel
19 who files such late papers may be subject to sanctions under Local Rule 7-13.

20 Reply papers shall be limited to argument and/or authorities responsive to
21 the opposition papers. The Court will ignore new matter that was improperly
22 introduced.

23 To assure that the Court receives oppositions and replies in a timely fashion,
24 courtesy copies of all oppositions and replies, conformed to reflect that they have
25 been filed, shall be deposited in the drop box in the entrance way to chambers, to
26 the left of Courtroom 14. All such papers shall be filed "loose" - - *i.e.*, not inside
27 envelopes.

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1 **B. Motions under Fed.R.Civ.P 12.**

2 See the Court's "Initial Case-Specific Order Following Filing of Complaint
3 Assigned to Judge Matz."

4 **C. Summary Judgment Motions.**

5 Parties need not, and in many cases they should not, wait until the motion
6 cutoff to bring motions for summary judgment or partial summary judgment.
7 However, in virtually every case, the Court expects that the party moving for
8 summary judgment will provide more than the minimum twenty-one (21) day
9 notice for motions. Summary judgment motions are, of course, very fact-
10 dependent. All parties should prepare their papers in a fashion that will assist the
11 Court in absorbing the mass of facts. (*E.g.*, generous use of tabs, tables of
12 contents, headings, indices, etc.) The parties are directed to comply precisely with
13 Local Rules 56-1 through 56-4. The Court will place a great deal of importance on
14 these respective statements and the parties shall deliver to chambers a copy of the
15 diskette, in WordPerfect 11 format, containing the respective "Statement of
16 Uncontroverted Facts and Conclusions of Law" and "Statement of Genuine
17 Issues."

18 1. Statement of Undisputed Facts and Statement of Genuine Issues

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

25 The opposing party's Statement of Genuine Issues must be in two columns
26 and track the movant's separate statement exactly as prepared. The left hand
27 column must restate the allegedly undisputed fact, and the right hand column must
28 state either that it is undisputed or disputed. The opposing party may dispute all or

1 only a portion of the statement, but if disputing only a portion, it must clearly
2 indicate what part is being disputed, followed by the opposing party's evidence
3 controverting the fact. The Court will not wade through a document to determine
4 whether a fact really is in dispute. To demonstrate that a fact is disputed, the
5 opposing party must briefly state why it disputes the moving party's asserted fact,
6 cite to the relevant exhibit or other piece of evidence, and describe what it is in that
7 exhibit or evidence that refutes the asserted fact. No legal argument should be set
8 forth in this document.

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

16 2. Supporting Evidence

17 No party should submit any evidence other than the specific items of
18 evidence or testimony necessary to support or controvert a proposed statement of
19 undisputed fact. Thus, for example, the entire transcript of a deposition, entire sets
20 of interrogatory responses, and documents that do not specifically support or
21 controvert material in the separate statements should not be submitted in support of
22 opposition to a motion for summary judgment. The Court will not consider such
23 material.

24 Evidence submitted in support of or opposition to a motion should be
25 submitted either by way of stipulation or as exhibits to declarations sufficient to
26 authenticate the proffered evidence, and should not be attached to the
27 Memorandum of Points and Authorities. The Court will accept counsel's
28 authentication of deposition transcripts, of written discovery responses and of the

1 receipt of documents in discovery if the fact that the document was in the
2 opponent's possession is of independent significance. Documentary evidence as to
3 which there is no stipulation regarding foundation must be accompanied by the
4 testimony, either by declaration or properly authenticated deposition transcript, of
5 a witness who can establish authenticity. The parties should use colored markers
6 to highlight the testimony or portions of exhibits that they are relying on.

7 3. Objections to Evidence

8 If a party disputes a fact based in whole or in part on an evidentiary
9 objection, the ground of the objection, as indicated above, should be stated in a
10 separate statement but not argued in that document.

11 4. Evidence Not Properly Cited

12 When a party relies on deposition testimony in a summary judgment motion
13 without citing to page and line numbers, the Court in its discretion may exclude or
14 disregard the supposed "evidence." See *Orr v. Bank of America*, 285 F.3d 764,
15 775 (9th Cir. 2002).

16 5. Cross-Motions on Identical Issues of Law

17 The parties shall avoid filing cross-motions for summary judgment on
18 identical issues of law, such that the papers would be unnecessarily cumulative.
19 (*E.g.*, a party's moving and reply papers on its own motion would advance the
20 same arguments as its opposition papers to the other party's cross-motion). The
21 parties shall discuss in advance which party should be designated as the moving
22 party. The moving party's reply papers shall be limited to responding to the non-
23 moving party's opposition papers. The non-moving party may not file a surreply
24 unless the Court first grants leave to do so.

25 **D. Motions in Limine.**

26 Parties often do not focus on evidentiary and related issues until the last
27 stages of trial preparation. This is a mistake. Such motions can be very helpful in
28 narrowing issues, limiting or allowing evidence and promoting settlement. With

1 these benefits in mind, the Court encourages the parties carefully to consider filing
2 such motions before the last stages of trial preparation. In any event, the parties
3 must file and respond to motions in limine in accordance with Local Rule 7 by the
4 date specified on the last page of this order. The Court will make every effort to
5 rule upon motions in limine at or before the Final Pre-Trial Conference.

6 **E. Oral Argument.**

7 Sometimes the Court will not hear oral argument. When that is the case, the
8 Court will notify the parties in advance. If there is a hearing, tentative rulings will
9 often be available in the courtroom approximately one-half hour before the call of
10 the calendar. The parties are expected to be familiar with the tentative ruling at the
11 time of argument.

12 **IV. APPLICATIONS AND STIPULATIONS FOR EXTENSIONS OF**
13 **TIME**

14 **A. Applications or Stipulations to Extend the Time to File any**
15 **Required Document or to Continue any Pretrial or Trial Date.**

16 No stipulations extending scheduling requirements or modifying applicable
17 rules are effective until and unless the Court approves them. Both applications and
18 stipulations must set forth:

- 19 1. the existing due date or hearing date;
- 20 2. specific, concrete reasons supporting good cause for granting the
21 extension. In this regard, a statement that an extension "will promote settlement"
22 is insufficient. The requesting party or parties must indicate the status of ongoing
23 negotiations: have written proposals been exchanged? Is counsel in the process of
24 reviewing a draft settlement agreement? Has a mediator been selected?
- 25 3. whether there have been prior requests for extensions, and whether these
26 were granted or denied by the Court.

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1 **B. Ex Parte Applications.**

2 Think twice! The Court strongly discourages *ex parte* applications. *See*
3 *Mission Power Eng. Co. v. Continental Casualty Co.*, 883 F.Supp. 488 (C.D. Calif.
4 1995). Strict adherence to Local Rule 7-19 is necessary.

5 **V. PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE AND LOCAL RULE 16 FILINGS**

6 **A. General Provisions.**

7 The Final Pre-Trial Conference (“PTC”) will be held at 11:00 a.m. on the
8 date specified, unless the Court expressly waived a PTC at the Scheduling
9 Conference. (In the rare cases where the Court waives a PTC, the parties must
10 follow Local Rule 16-11.) If adjustments in the Court’s calendar to accommodate
11 congestion become necessary, the Court may re-calendar the PTC instead of the
12 trial date. Therefore, the parties should assume that if the PTC goes forward, the
13 trial will go forward without continuance, although some brief period of trailing
14 may prove necessary.

15 The lead trial attorney on behalf of every party shall attend both the PTC and
16 all meetings of the parties in preparation for the PTC. Unless counsel has been
17 excused for good cause shown in advance of the PTC, the Court reserves the right
18 to designate the attorney attending the PTC as lead trial counsel.

19 A continuance of the PTC at the parties' request or by stipulation is highly
20 unlikely. Specifically, failure to complete discovery is not a ground for
21 continuance. In the unlikely event that the Court agrees to continuing the PTC,
22 the trial date is likely to be delayed as a result, possibly for a few months. If a
23 change in the trial date is necessitated or likely because of the Court’s calendar or
24 otherwise, modifications of that date will be discussed at the PTC.

25 At the PTC, the parties should be prepared to discuss means of streamlining
26 the trial, including, but not limited to: bifurcation; presentation of foundational
27 and non-critical testimony and direct testimony by deposition excerpts, narrative
28 summaries and/or stipulations as to the content of testimony; presentation of

1 testimony on direct examination or by declaration subject to cross-examination;
2 and qualification of experts by admitted resumes. The Court will attempt to rule
3 upon previously-filed motions in limine at the PTC. The Court will also discuss
4 settlement.

5 **B. Form of Final Pre-Trial Conference Order (“PTCO”).**

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

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

13 2. Please include a Table of Contents at the beginning.

14 3. In specifying the surviving pleadings under Section 1, please state
15 which claims or counterclaims have been dismissed or abandoned. E.g. “Plaintiff’s
16 second cause of action for breach of fiduciary duty has been dismissed.” Also, in
17 multiple party cases where not all claims or counterclaims will be prosecuted
18 against all remaining parties on the other side, please specify to which party each
19 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 also expects that the parties will
23 attempt to agree on and set forth as many non-contested facts as possible. The
24 Court will usually read the uncontested facts to the jury at the start of the trial. A
25 carefully drafted and comprehensively stated stipulation of facts will reduce the
26 length of trial and increase jury understanding of the case.

27 6. In drafting the factual issues in dispute for the PTCO, the parties
28 should attempt to state issues in ultimate fact form, not in the form of evidentiary

1 fact issues (e.g., “Was the defendant negligent? Was such negligence the
2 proximate cause of injury to the plaintiff? Was the plaintiff negligent?” etc. ^{Not}
3 “Was the plaintiff standing on the corner of 5th and Spring at 10 a.m. on May 3?”
4 etc.). The parties may, if they so desire, list sub-issues under the headings of
5 ultimate fact issues, but should not use this as a device to list disputes over
6 evidentiary matters. In general, the issues of fact should set forth the disputed
7 elements of the claim or affirmative defenses.

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

11 8. Issues of law should state legal issues on which the Court will be
12 required to rule at or after the PTC, or during the trial, and should not list ultimate
13 fact issues to be submitted to the trier of fact.

14 **C. Rule 16 Filings; Memoranda; Witness Lists (Including Experts);**
15 **Exhibit Lists.**

16 1. Generally. The parties must comply fully with the requirements of
17 Local Rule 16. They shall file carefully prepared Memoranda of Contentions of
18 Fact and Law (which may also serve as the trial brief), along with their respective
19 Witness Lists and Exhibit Lists, all in accordance with Local Rule 16. See the last
20 page for dates. Failure to include the name of an expert witness precludes a party
21 from calling that expert witness. An expert witness’s direct testimony shall consist
22 of a non-exhaustive description of his background and the contents of his Rule 26
23 report.

24 2. Pre-Trial Exhibit Stipulation. The parties shall prepare a Pre-Trial
25 Exhibit Stipulation which shall contain each party’s numbered list of all trial
26 exhibits, with objections, if any, to each exhibit including the basis of the objection
27 and the offering party’s response. All exhibits to which there is no objection shall
28 be deemed admitted. All parties shall stipulate to the authenticity of exhibits

1 whenever possible, and the Pre-Trial Exhibit Stipulation shall identify any exhibits
2 whose authenticity has not been stipulated to and the specific reasons for the
3 party's failure to stipulate.

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4 The Stipulation shall be substantially in the following form:

5 Pre-Trial Exhibit Stipulation

6 Plaintiff(s)' Exhibits

7 Number Description If Objection, State Grounds Response to Objection

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Defendant(s)' Exhibits

| <u>Number</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>If Objection, State Grounds</u> | <u>Response to Objection</u> |
|---------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
|---------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|

SCANNED

The Pre-Trial Exhibit Stipulation shall be filed at the same time counsel lodge the PTCO. Failure to comply with this paragraph shall constitute a waiver of all objections.

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

D. Trial Witness Estimate Form

At the pre-trial conference the parties will be given a Joint Trial Witness Time Estimate Form, which they will be required to fill in and give to the Court on the first day of trial.

E. Real Time Court Reporting Requirement

Each party must bring to the PTC a prepared typed list of proper names, unusual or scientific terms, or any other uncommon words that are likely to be used during trial. This list will enable the court reporter to prepare accurate transcripts in real time.

F. Jury Instructions, Verdict Forms and Special Interrogatories.

1. On the dates specified on the attached "Schedule of Pretrial Dates", the parties are required jointly to submit one set of agreed upon substantive instructions, a verdict form and, if necessary, special interrogatories. "Substantive jury instructions" means all instructions relating to the elements of all claims and defenses in the case. The parties need not submit general instructions. The parties

1 shall deliver to chambers a copy of these filings on disk in WordPerfect 11.0
2 format at the time the documents are filed.

3 2. If the parties cannot agree upon one complete set of substantive
4 instructions, special or general verdict form and/or special interrogatories, they
5 shall file two documents with the Court: first, the agreed upon instructions and
6 verdict forms, and second a joint statement regarding the disputed instructions,
7 verdicts and interrogatories. In the second document (the joint statement) the
8 parties shall place the text of the disputed instruction (or verdict or interrogatory)
9 with an identification of the party proposing it and following that text they shall
10 place the opposing party's statement of objections, along with legal authority in
11 support of the objections (not to exceed one page) and proposed alternative
12 language where appropriate. The entirety of the objection shall be typed in capital
13 letters.

14 Each party shall include a disk when it serves its proposed instructions on
15 opposing parties to simplify the preparation of the joint statement regarding the
16 disputed instructions.

17 Both the agreed on set, and the joint statement re disputed instructions are to
18 be filed at the Final Pre-Trial Conference.

19 3. A table of contents shall be included with all jury instructions
20 submitted to the Court. The table of contents shall set forth the following:

- 21 a. The number of the instruction;
- 22 b. A brief title of the instruction;
- 23 c. The source of the instruction; and
- 24 d. The page number of the instruction.

25 For example:

| 26 <u>Number</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Source</u> | <u>Page Number</u> |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 27 1 | Burden of Proof | 9 th Cir. 12.2 | 5 |

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1 The parties need not submit a separate copy of instructions without citations to
2 authority.

3 4. The Court prefers counsel to use the instructions from the *Manual of*
4 *Model Jury Instructions for the Ninth Circuit* (West 2001) where applicable.

5 Where California law is to be applied and the above instructions are not applicable,
6 the Court prefers counsel to use *California Jury Instructions - Civil* (CACI). If
7 neither of these sources is applicable, counsel are directed to use the instructions in
8 O'Malley, Grenig & Lee, *Federal Jury Practice and Instructions* (Fifth).

9 5. Modifications of instructions from the foregoing sources (or any other
10 form instructions) must specifically state the modification made to the original
11 form instruction and the authority supporting the modification.

12 **G. Joint Statement of the Case and Requests for Voir Dire.**

13 On the same date the parties file their joint and separate proposed jury
14 instructions, the parties shall also file their joint statement of the case which the
15 Court shall read to all prospective jurors prior to the commencement of voir dire.
16 Ordinarily, the statement should be not longer than two or three paragraphs.

17 The Court conducts voir dire of all prospective jurors. On the same date that
18 the parties file their Joint Statement of the Case, each party shall file its separate
19 proposed voir dire questions. The parties need not submit requests for standard
20 voir dire questions, such as education, current occupation, marital status, prior jury
21 service, etc., but should include only proposed questions specifically tailored to the
22 parties and issues of the case.

23 **H. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.**

24 For a non-jury trial, the parties shall lodge their proposed findings of fact
25 and conclusions of law not later than one week before trial. The parties shall
26 deliver to chambers a copy of these findings on disk in WordPerfect 11 format.
27 Please see the Court's Civil Trial Order.

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1 **VI. SETTLEMENT**

2 Local Rule 16-14.2 provides that the Settlement Conference shall be
3 concluded not later than 45 days before the Pretrial Conference. The Court
4 believes that in most cases completion of all discovery and dispositive motions will
5 help the parties assess their positions before they embark on the costly pre-trial
6 process. But sometimes parties find it more difficult to settle after they incurred
7 the cost of all discovery and motion practice. The Court therefore strongly
8 encourages counsel and the parties to pursue settlement earlier.

9 The Court has a keen interest in helping the parties achieve settlement. If
10 the parties believe that it would be more likely that a settlement would be reached
11 if they conduct the settlement conference at a different time than that in the
12 attached schedule, they should conduct it at that time. In any event, as indicated in
13 the Schedule of Pretrial Dates attached hereto, the parties must file a Status Report
14 re Settlement at the time that they file their respective memorandum of fact and
15 law, witness lists and exhibit lists.

16 This Court will not conduct settlement conferences in non-jury cases which
17 he is to try. In jury cases, the Court will conduct a settlement conference at the
18 parties' joint request if three conditions exist:

- 19 1. The parties are satisfied that the fact issues in the case will be tried to a
20 jury.
- 21 2. All significant pre-trial rulings which the Court must make have been
22 made.
- 23 3. The parties desire the Court to conduct the conference, understanding that
24 if settlement fails, the Court will try the case.

25 If the parties are inclined to select this Court to conduct the Mandatory
26 Settlement Conference, the parties should consult the Court's Standing Order re
27 Settlement Conference so that they fully understand the Court's requirements for
28 the settlement conference. That order will govern the settlement conference

1 procedures before this Court, but may also serve as a useful reference for
2 settlement conferences conducted pursuant to the other available procedures

3 **VII. WEBSITE**

4 Copies of this Order and all other orders of this Court that may apply
5 specifically to this case are available on the Central District of California website,
6 at "www.cacd.uscourts.gov," under "Judge's Requirements."

7 **VIII. TRIAL DATE**

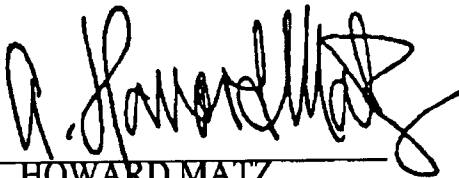
8 This case has been set for trial on the date specified on Exhibit "A" below at
9 8:00 A.M. Please review the Court's separately-issued Civil Trial Order for the
10 procedures and requirements for civil trials.

11 **IX. CONCLUSION**

12 The Court thanks the parties and their counsel for their anticipated
13 cooperation in carrying out these requirements.

14 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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16 DATED: JULY 31, 2006

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A. HOWARD MATZ
United States District Judge

**JUDGE A HOWARD MATZ
PRESUMPTIVE SCHEDULE OF PRETRIAL DATES**

| Matter | Time | Weeks before trial | Plaintiff's Request | Defendant's Request | Court Order |
|--|------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Trial date (Jury) (Court) <u>4</u> days Estimated length: _____ days | 8:00 a.m. | | | | 5-15-07 |
| (Court trial) File Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and Summaries of Direct Testimony | | - 1 | | | 5-7-07 |
| Final Pretrial Conference; Hearing on Motions in Limine; File Agreed Upon Set of Jury Instructions and Verdict Forms and Joint Statement re Disputed Instructions and Verdict Forms; File Proposed <i>Voir Dire</i> Qs and Agreed-to Statement of Case | 11:00 a.m. | - 2 | | | 4-30-07 |
| Lodge Pretrial Conf. Order File Memo of Contentions of Fact and Law; Exhibit List; Witness List; Status Report re Settlement | | - 4 | | | 4-16-07 |
| Last day for hand-serving Motions in Limine | | - 6 | | | 4-2-07 |
| Last Day to Meet Before Final Pretrial Conference (L.R. 16-2) | | 8 | | | 3-19-07 |
| Last day for hearing motions | 10:00 a.m. | 8 | | | 3-19-07 |
| Last day for hand-serving motions and filing (other than Motions in Limine) | | 12 | | | 2-20-07 |
| Non-expert Discovery cut-off | | - 14 | | | 2-5-07 |

ADDITIONAL MATTERS TO BE DETERMINED AT SCHEDULING CONFERENCE

L.R. 16-14 Settlement Choice: (1) CT/USMJ (2) Atty (3) Outside ADR

| | | | | | |
|---|--|------|--|--|---------|
| Expert discovery cut-off | | - 6 | | | --- |
| Rebuttal Expert Witness Disclosure | | - 9 | | | --- |
| Opening Expert Witness Disclosure [See F.R.Civ.P. 26(a)(2)] | | - 13 | | | --- |
| Last day to conduct Settlement Conference | | | | | 2-12-07 |
| Last Day to Amend Pleadings or Add Parties | | | | | --- |

EXHIBIT A