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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

Samir Mahmud Arikat,

Plaintiff,

V.

Scottsdale Ferrari LLC, et al.,

Defendants.

No. CV-18-00438-PHX-DJH

ORDER

Pending before the Court is Defendant Maserati North America, Inc.'s ("Defendant") Motion for Sanctions Against Plaintiff Samir Arikat ("Plaintiff") (Doc. 27) wherein Defendant seeks relief for Plaintiff's alleged inadequate initial discovery disclosures. Plaintiff filed a Response (Doc. 32) and Defendant filed a Reply (Doc. 33). The Court finds that in bringing this motion, Defendant failed to follow the discovery dispute protocol detailed in the parties' Rule 16 Scheduling Order (Doc. 25). Specifically, this Court's discovery dispute procedure prohibits the parties from filing written discovery motions, such as this one, without leave of Court. The procedure provides as follows:

<u>Discovery Disputes</u>. The parties shall not file written discovery motions without leave of Court. If a discovery dispute arises and cannot be resolved despite sincere efforts to resolve the matter through personal consultation (in person or by telephone), the parties shall **jointly file** (1) a brief written summary of the dispute, not to exceed two pages, with explanation of the position taken by each party and (2) a joint written certification that the counsel or the parties have attempted to resolve the matter through personal consultation and sincere effort as required by LRCiv 7.2(j) and have reached an impasse. If the opposing party has refused to personally consult, the party seeking relief shall describe the efforts made

to obtain personal consultation. Upon review of the filed written summary of the dispute, the Court may set an n in-court hearing or telephonic conference, order written briefing, or decide the dispute without conference or briefing. If the Court desires supplemental briefing prior to a hearing, counsel will be notified by order of the Court. Any briefing ordered by the Court shall also comply with LRCiv 7.2(j).

(Doc. 25 at 5). Thus, the Court will strike Defendant's Motion for Sanctions for failure to comply with the discovery dispute procedure. Notwithstanding the February 4, 2019 Completion of Fact Discovery Deadline, the Court will allow Defendant to bring the discovery dispute to the Court's attention in compliance with this Court's discovery dispute procedure.

Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED that Defendant's Motion for Sanctions Against Plaintiff (Doc. 27) is STRICKEN.

Dated this 5th day of February, 2019.

Honorable Diane J. Humetewa United States District Judge