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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SCOTT STEVENSON, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

v.

OMNI FAMILY HEALTH,

Defendant.

Case No. 1:24-cv-01459-JLT-CDB

ORDER ON STIPULATION EXTENDING
TIME FOR DEFENDANT TO RESPOND TO
COMPLAINT

(Doc. 12)

ORDER DIRECTING PARTIES TO FILE
COMPLETED CONSENT/DECLINE
JURISDICTION FORMS

ORDER VACATING MARCH 3, 2025,
SCHEDULING CONFERENCE

Seven-day Deadline

Relevant Background

On October 25, 2024, Plaintiffs Scott Stevenson and Marcos Montoya (collectively, “Plaintiffs”) initiated this action with the filing of a complaint on behalf of themselves and a putative class of others against Defendant Omni Family Health (“Defendant”) in the Superior Court of the State of California, Kern County, Case No. BCV-24-103675. (Doc. 1). On November 29, 2024, Defendant removed the action to this Court. (*Id.*). On December 5, 2024, the parties stipulated pursuant to Local Rule 144(a) to extend by 28 days the time for Defendant to respond to the complaint, up to and including January 3, 2025. (Doc. 6). On December 27, 2024, Plaintiffs filed the pending motion to remand the action to Kern County Superior Court

1 that is set for hearing on February 3, 2025. (Doc. 11).

2 This action is one of several similar class action suits brought in or removed to this Court
3 in which Plaintiffs assert similar claims against Defendant. *See, e.g., Gober Villatoro Guerra v.*
4 *Omni Family Health*, Case No. 1:24-cv-01492-JLT-CDB (“*Guerra*”) (Doc. 6). In *Guerra*, the
5 Court noted the class action complaints here and the other Omni actions allege substantially
6 similar facts and nearly identical causes of action against Defendant. (*Id.* at 1-2) (“From review
7 of the several complaints, it appears these actions arise from a recent, alleged cyberattack
8 resulting in a data breach of sensitive information in the possession and custody and/or control
9 of Defendant (the ‘Data Breach’).”)

10 The Court ordered Defendant to file a Notice of Related Cases in accordance with Local
11 Rule 123(b) in *Guerra* and the identified Omni actions therein, including the instant action. (*Id.*
12 at 3). The Court further ordered the parties in *Guerra* to show cause why this action should or
13 should not be consolidated pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 42(a). (*Id.*). On
14 December 27, 2024, Defendant filed the Notice of Related Cases and identified as related, *inter*
15 *alia*, the instant action. (*Guerra*, Doc. 8 at ¶ 5). On December 30, 2024, the parties in *Guerra*
16 filed a joint status report in response to the Court’s show cause order. (*Guerra*, Doc. 9). Therein,
17 Defendant represents it intends to file a motion to substitute the United States in the matter and
18 all other related Omni matters. (*Id.* at 1).

19 The *Guerra* parties represent that they will file in the first filed of the Omni federal
20 actions – *Ellen Pace v. Omni Family Health*, Case No. 1:24-cv-01277-JLT-CDB – a joint
21 stipulation and proposed order consolidating and staying the Omni actions pending resolution of
22 the earlier of Defendant’s forthcoming motion to substitute or motions to remand in the instant
23 action (Doc. 11) as well as *Samantha Abraham, et al. v. Omni Family Health*, Case No. 1:24-
24 cv-01456-CDB (“*Abraham*”) (*Abraham*, Doc. 7). (*Id.* at 2).

25 **Pending Stipulated Request**

26 Pending before the Court is the parties’ stipulated request to extend by 30 additional days
27 the time for Defendant to respond to the complaint, through and including February 3, 2025.
28 (Doc. 12). The parties represent the requested extension will allow time for other federal court

1 actions filed against Defendant to be consolidated and for the Court to rule on Defendant's
2 forthcoming motion to substitute the United States in this case as a defendant pursuant to the
3 Federal Tort Claims Act, 42 U.S.C. § 233, as well as the Plaintiffs' pending motion to remand
4 (Doc. 11). (Doc. 12 at 2). The parties represent that good cause exists to grant the requested
5 extension in the efficiencies from allowing consolidation to occur and ruling on the pending
6 motions to substitute and to remand. (*Id.*). The parties demonstrate good cause to grant the
7 request.

8 **Miscellaneous Matters**

9 No party to this action has timely complied with the Court's order to file completed
10 consent/decline magistrate judge jurisdiction forms. *See* (Doc. 4-1 at par. 2) (directing parties
11 to file completed consent/decline forms within 14 days of removal of the action from state court);
12 *see also id.* ("The parties are strongly encouraged to submit their consent forms before the filing
13 of any motion, so the motion can be noticed before the proper judge."). Accordingly, the parties
14 will be directed to promptly complete and file said forms.

15 **Conclusion and Order**

16 Good cause appearing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- 17 1. Defendant shall have until **February 3, 2025**, to respond to the complaint by filing
18 an answer or other responsive pleading. *See* Local Rule 144(a);
- 19 2. The scheduling conference set for March 3, 2025 (Doc. 4) is VACATED to be reset
20 as necessary following the ruling on the pending motion to remand (Doc. 11) and
21 resolution of the issue of consolidation; and
- 22 3. The parties shall file completed consent/decline magistrate judge jurisdiction forms
23 (Doc. 4-3) within **seven days** of entry of this order.

24 IT IS SO ORDERED.

25 Dated: **January 3, 2025**

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27 _____
28 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE