06-CV-00549 JAM-DAD

STIPULATION AND ORDER TO CONSOLIDATE RELATED CASES - 05-CV-00881 JAM-DAD AND

28

1	JAMES V. FITZGERALD, III (State Bar No. 55632) NOAH G. BLECHMAN (State Bar No. 197167)		John C. Burton (State Bar No. 86029)		
2	PETRA BRUGGISSER (State Bar No. 241173)		LAW OFFICES OF JOHN		
3	MCNAMARA, NEY, BEATTY, SLATTERY, BORGES & AMBACHER LLP		BURTON Law 65 North Raymond Avenue,		
4	1211 Newell Avenue Walnut Creek, CA 94596		Suite 300 Pasadena, CA 91103		
	Telephone: (925) 939-5330		Telephone:	(626) 449-8300	
5	Facsimile: (925) 939-0203		Facsimile	(626) 449-4417	
6	Attorneys for Defendants (both cases)		Attorneys for Plaintiff ANDREW WASHINGTON, JR.,		
7	ANDREW C. SCHWARTZ (State Bar No. 064578) CASPER, MEADOWS, SCHWARTZ & COOK		a minor		
8	A Professional Corporation	Mark E. Merin (State Bar No. 043849) LAW OFFICES OF MARK E. MERIN 1010 F Street, Suite 300 Sacramento, CA 95814			
9	California Plaza 2121 North California Blvd., Suite 1020				
10	Walnut Creek, CA 94596				
	Telephone: (925) 947-1147 Facsimile: (925) 947-1131				
11	`		Telephone: Facsimile:	(916) 443-6911 (916) 447-8336	
12	Attorneys for Plaintiff ANDREW WASHINGTON, JR., a minor		E-Mail: mark@markmerin.com		
13	JOHN L. BURRIS, Esq. (State Bar # 69888)	Attorneys for Plaintiff			
14	BENJAMIN NISENBAUM, Esq. (State Bar FLAW OFFICES OF JOHN L. BURRIS	#222173)	ANDREW WASHINGTON, JR., a minor		
15	7677 Oakport Street, Suite 1120				
	Oakland, CA 94621 Telephone: (510) 839-5200				
16	Facsimile: (510) 839-3882				
17	Attorneys for Plaintiff				
18	LORI BAUER				
19	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT				
20	EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA				
21					
22			CV-00881 JAM-DAD		
	MINOR, INDIVIDUALLY IN HIS PERSONAL CAPACITY AND AS	Y AND AS STIPULATION			
23	SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST OF DECEDENT ANDREW WASHINGTON,	ORDER TO CONSOLIDATE RELATED CASES – FRCP 42			
24	SR., BY AND THROUGH HIS	REBRIED CA	iolo fici		
25	GUARDIAN AD LITEM, ALEJANDRA RAYA,				
26	Plaintiff,				
27	vs.				

Dockets.Justia.com

TASER INTERNATIONAL, INC.; CITY OF VALLEJO; et al., ,

Defendants.

LORI BAUER, INDIVIDUALLY, AND AS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ESTATE OF ANDREW WASHINGTON,

Plaintiff,

VS.

CITY OF VALLEJO, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 06-CV-00549 JAM-DAD

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and between the parties to this action, through their respective counsel of record, as follows:

WHEREAS this Court issued a Related Case Order for the concurrently pending civil actions (Washington) 05-CV-00881 JAM-DAD and (Bauer) 06-CV-00549 JAM-DAD. The Court reasoned that "the assignment of the matters to the same judge and magistrate judge is likely to affect a substantial savings of judicial effort and is also likely to be convenient for the parties." (See Related Case Order, signed by Hon. District Court Judge John A. Mendez on March 21, 2013, Document 87 (Washington) and Document 44 (Bauer)).

WHEREAS the parties agree and hereby stipulate to consolidate both actions under FRCP 42(a) for the purposes of remaining discovery, pretrial and trial, in other words, for all purposes. Good cause for a consolidation of both actions exists because both cases involve the same parties, the same or similar claims, the same death related event, the same witnesses, same or similar experts, the same or similar evidence and the same or similar questions of fact and law, as set forth below. Thus, a consolidation of both cases for remaining discovery, pretrial and trial, in other words, for all purposes, will likely effect a savings of judicial effort and other economics and will avoid unjust and different outcomes related to the same alleged wrongful death incident.

WHEREAS both cases involve the same event, the death of Andrew Washington on

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

September 16, 2004. The City of Vallejo, Jeremie Patzer, and Robert Nichelini are named Defendants in both cases. In addition, City of Vallejo's Police Officers Tom Liddicoet and David Jackson are named in the <u>Bauer</u> action. The plaintiff in the <u>Washington</u> action is the minor son of the decedent, whereas the plaintiff in the Bauer case is the decedent's mother. The claims asserted in both cases are similar as they all arise out of the same incident, namely the alleged wrongful death of the decedent arising out of his contact with the City of Vallejo police officers on September 16, 2004. All in all, the trial of these two cases will likely be almost identical, involving the same or similar parties, witnesses, evidence, experts and overlapping claims. As such, these two cases should be consolidated for all purposes.

WHEREAS consolidating both cases is also warranted to avoid inconsistent orders, judgments and/or trial outcomes. As both cases involve the same questions of fact and law, they should yield the same result. Plaintiffs in both cases claim damages against the Vallejo Defendants for the wrongful death of Andrew Washington on September 16, 2004. The factual issues in both cases will be identical. The legal questions in both cases will be practically identical, with some minor differences due to the fact that one Plaintiff is the son of the Decedent and one is the mother. The overlap in factual and legal issues will be substantial, if not identical. Trying both cases in separate trials and/or deciding both cases in relation to separately filed motions for summary judgment would not only entail substantial duplication of labor, but more importantly, there would be a substantial risk of inconsistent orders, judgments and/or trial outcomes. Furthermore, while each plaintiff maintains his or her own personal and separate cause of action, a wrongful death action is generally considered joint, single and indivisible. All heirs should join in a single action (the so called "one action rule"). San Diego Gas & Elec. Co. v. Superior Court (2007) 146 Cal. App. 4th 1545, 1551 (emphasis added).

24

25

26

27

28

///

06-CV-00549 JAM-DAD

27

28

1

2

3

THEREFORE the parties agree and hereby stipulate to consolidate both cases under FRCP 42(a) for remaining discovery, pretrial and trial purposes, in other words, for all purposes.

IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD

DATED: March 28, 2013 CASPER, MEADOWS, SCHWARTZ & COOK

> By: /s/ ANDREW C. SCHWARTZ

> > JOHN C. BURTON MARK E. MERIN Attorneys for Plaintiff

ANDREW WASHINGTON, JR.

LAW OFFICES OF JOHN L. BURRIS Dated: March 28, 2013

By: /s/

John L. Burris, Esq. Benjamin Nisenbaum, Esq.

Attorneys for Plaintiff Lori Bauer

MCNAMARA, NEY, BEATTY, SLATTERY, BORGES & AMBACHER LLP

/s/ Noah G. Blechman James V. Fitzgerald, III Noah G. Blechman Petra Bruggisser Attorneys for Defendants (both cases)

ORDER

Good cause having been shown by the parties, the Court hereby orders that the civil actions (Washington) 05-CV-00881 JAM-DAD and (Bauer) 06-CV-00549 JAM-DAD are hereby ordered CONSOLIDATED for all purposes per FRCP 42 (a). The earlier filed case, (Washington) 05-CV-00881 JAM-DAD, shall be the leading case. The caption on documents filed in the consolidated cases shall be shown as 2:05-CV-00881 JAM-DAD.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: April 2, 2013

Dated: March 27, 2013

/s/ John A. Mendez Honorable John A. Mendez United States District Court Judge

STIPULATION AND ORDER TO CONSOLIDATE RELATED CASES - 05-CV-00881 JAM-DAD AND 06-CV-00549 JAM-DAD

4