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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

DEVRA KEOKONGCHACK,  
individually and on behalf of  
all others similarly  
situated,  
  
Plaintiff,  
  
v.  
  
ADVANCED CALL CENTER  
TECHNOLOGIES, LLC.,  
  
Defendant.

No. 2:13-cv-1385-TLN-AC  
  
PRETRIAL SCHEDULING ORDER

After reviewing the parties' Joint Status Report, the Court makes the following Pretrial Scheduling Order.

I. SERVICE OF PROCESS

All named Defendants have been served and no further service is permitted without leave of court, good cause having been shown.

II. ADDITIONAL PARTIES/AMENDMENTS/PLEADINGS

No joinder of parties or amendments to pleadings is permitted without leave of court, good cause having been shown.

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1           III.    JURISDICTION/VENUE

2           Jurisdiction is predicated upon **28 U.S.C. sections 1332(d)**  
3 **and 1446.** Jurisdiction and venue are not contested.

4                                    **PHASE I - CLASS CERTIFICATION**

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6           IV.    CLASS CERTIFICATION

7           The Plaintiff's motion for class certification shall be  
8 filed by **July 31, 2014.** Defendant's opposition shall be filed by  
9 **September 18, 2014.** Plaintiff's reply shall be filed by  
10 **October 16, 2014.** The Class Certification Hearing is set for  
11 **November 6, 2014, at 2:00 p.m.**

12                                    **PHASE II**

13  
14           V.     DISCOVERY

15           All discovery, with the exception of expert discovery, shall  
16 be completed by **July 30, 2015.** In this context, "completed"  
17 means that all discovery shall have been conducted so that all  
18 depositions have been taken and any disputes relative to  
19 discovery shall have been resolved by appropriate order if  
20 necessary and, where discovery has been ordered, the order has  
21 been obeyed. All motions to compel discovery must be noticed on  
22 the magistrate judge's calendar in accordance with the local  
23 rules of this Court.

24           VI.    DISCLOSURE OF EXPERT WITNESSES

25           All counsel are to designate in writing, file with the  
26 Court, and serve upon all other parties the name, address, and  
27 area of expertise of each expert that they propose to tender at  
28

1 trial not later than **September 30, 2015**.<sup>1</sup> The designation shall  
2 be accompanied by a written report prepared and signed by the  
3 witness. The report shall comply with Fed. R. Civ. P.  
4 26(a)(2)(B).

5 Within thirty (30) days after the designation of expert  
6 witnesses, any party may designate a supplemental list of expert  
7 witnesses who will express an opinion on a subject covered by an  
8 expert designated by an adverse party. The right to designate a  
9 supplemental expert for rebuttal purposes only shall apply to a  
10 party who has not previously disclosed an expert witness on the  
11 date set for expert witness disclosure by this Pretrial  
12 Scheduling Order.

13 Failure of a party to comply with the disclosure schedule as  
14 set forth above in all likelihood will preclude that party from  
15 calling the expert witness at the time of trial. An expert  
16 witness not appearing on the designation will not be permitted to  
17 testify unless the party offering the witness demonstrates: (a)  
18 that the necessity for the witness could not have been reasonably  
19 anticipated at the time the list was proffered; (b) that the  
20 Court and opposing counsel were promptly notified upon discovery  
21 of the witness; and (c) that the witness was promptly made  
22 available for deposition.

23 For purposes of this Pretrial Scheduling Order, an "expert"  
24 is any person who may be used at trial to present evidence under  
25 Rules 702, 703, and 705 of the Federal Rules of Evidence, which  
26 include both "percipient experts" (persons who, because of their

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27 <sup>1</sup> The discovery of experts will include whether any motions based on  
28 Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc., 509 U.S. 579 (1993) and/or  
Kumho Tire Co. v. Carmichael, 119 S. Ct. 1167 (1999) are anticipated.

1 expertise, have rendered expert opinions in the normal course of  
2 their work duties or observations pertinent to the issues in the  
3 case) and "retained experts" (persons specifically designated by  
4 a party to be a testifying expert for the purposes of  
5 litigation).

6 Each party shall identify whether a disclosed expert is  
7 percipient, retained, or both. It will be assumed that a party  
8 designating a retained expert has acquired the express permission  
9 of the witness to be so listed. Parties designating percipient  
10 experts must state in the designation who is responsible for  
11 arranging the deposition of such persons.

12 All experts designated are to be fully prepared at the time  
13 of designation to render an informed opinion, and give their  
14 bases for their opinion, so that they will be able to give full  
15 and complete testimony at any deposition taken by the opposing  
16 party. Experts will not be permitted to testify at the trial as  
17 to any information gathered or evaluated, or opinion formed,  
18 after deposition taken subsequent to designation.

19 Counsel are instructed to complete all discovery of expert  
20 witnesses in a timely manner in order to comply with the Court's  
21 deadline for filing dispositive motions.

## 22 VII. MOTION HEARING SCHEDULE

23 All dispositive motions, except motions for continuances,  
24 temporary restraining orders or other emergency applications,  
25 shall be heard no later than **January 14, 2016**.

26 All purely legal issues are to be resolved by timely  
27 pretrial motions. Local Rule 230 governs the calendaring and  
28 procedures of civil motions with the following additions:

- 1 (a) The opposition and reply must be filed by 4:00  
2 p.m. on the day due; and
- 3 (b) When the last day for filing an opposition brief  
4 falls on a legal holiday, the opposition brief  
5 shall be filed on the last court day immediately  
6 preceding the legal holiday.

7 Failure to comply with Local Rule 230(c), as modified by this  
8 order, may be deemed consent to the motion and the court may  
9 dispose of the motion summarily. Further, failure to timely  
10 oppose a summary judgment motion<sup>2</sup> may result in the granting of  
11 that motion if the movant shifts the burden to the nonmovant to  
12 demonstrate that a genuine issue of material fact remains for  
13 trial.

14 The Court places a page limit for points and authorities  
15 (exclusive of exhibits and other supporting documentation) of  
16 twenty (20) pages on all initial moving papers, twenty (20) pages  
17 on oppositions, and ten (10) pages for replies. All requests for  
18 page limit increases must be made in writing to the Court setting  
19 forth any and all reasons for any increase in page limit at least  
20 fourteen (14) days prior to the filing of the motion.

21 For the Court's convenience, citations to Supreme Court  
22 cases should include parallel citations to the Supreme Court  
23 Reporter.

24 The parties are reminded that a motion in limine is a  
25 pretrial procedural device designed to address the admissibility  
26 of evidence. The Court will look with disfavor upon

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27 <sup>2</sup> The Court urges any party that contemplates bringing a motion for summary  
28 judgment or who must oppose a motion for summary judgment to review Local Rule  
260.

1 dispositional motions presented at the Final Pretrial Conference  
2 or at trial in the guise of motions in limine.

3 The parties are cautioned that failure to raise a  
4 dispositive legal issue that could have been tendered to the  
5 court by proper pretrial motion prior to the dispositive motion  
6 cut-off date may constitute waiver of such issue.

7 VIII. FINAL PRETRIAL CONFERENCE

8 The Final Pretrial Conference is set for **April 7, 2016**, at  
9 **2:00 p.m.** At least one of the attorneys who will conduct the  
10 trial for each of the parties shall attend the Final Pretrial  
11 Conference. If by reason of illness or other unavoidable  
12 circumstance a trial attorney is unable to attend, the attorney  
13 who attends in place of the trial attorney shall have equal  
14 familiarity with the case and equal authorization to make  
15 commitments on behalf of the client.

16 Counsel for all parties are to be fully prepared for trial  
17 at the time of the Final Pretrial Conference, with no matters  
18 remaining to be accomplished except production of witnesses for  
19 oral testimony.

20 The parties shall file, not later than **March 31, 2016**, a  
21 Joint Final Pretrial Conference Statement. The provisions of  
22 Local Rules 281 shall apply with respect to the matters to be  
23 included in the Joint Final Pretrial Conference Statement. In  
24 addition to those subjects listed in Local Rule 281(b), the  
25 parties are to provide the Court with a plain, concise statement  
26 that identifies every non-discovery motion tendered to the Court  
27 and its resolution. Failure to comply with Local Rule 281, as  
28 modified by this Pretrial Scheduling Order, may be grounds for

1 sanctions.

2 At the time of filing the Joint Final Pretrial Conference  
3 Statement, counsel shall also electronically mail to the Court in  
4 digital format compatible with Microsoft Word, the Joint Final  
5 Pretrial Conference Statement in its entirety including the  
6 witness and exhibit lists. **These documents shall be sent to:**  
7 [tlorders@caed.uscourts.gov](mailto:tlorders@caed.uscourts.gov).

8 The parties should identify first the core undisputed facts  
9 relevant to all claims. The parties should then, in a concise  
10 manner, identify those undisputed core facts that are relevant to  
11 each claim. The disputed facts should be identified in the same  
12 manner. Where the parties are unable to agree as to what  
13 disputed facts are properly before the Court for trial, they  
14 should nevertheless list all disputed facts asserted by each  
15 party. Each disputed fact or undisputed fact should be  
16 separately numbered or lettered.

17 Each party shall identify and concisely list each disputed  
18 evidentiary issue which will be the subject of a motion in  
19 limine.

20 Each party shall identify the points of law which concisely  
21 describe the legal issues of the trial which will be discussed in  
22 the parties' respective trial briefs. Points of law should  
23 reflect issues derived from the core undisputed and disputed  
24 facts. Parties shall not include argument or authorities with  
25 any point of law.

26 The parties shall prepare a joint statement of the case in  
27 plain concise language which will be read to the jury at the  
28 beginning of the trial. The purpose of the joint statement is to

1 inform the jury what the case is about.

2 The parties are reminded that pursuant to Local Rule 281  
3 they are required to list in the Joint Final Pretrial Conference  
4 Statement all witnesses and exhibits they propose to offer at  
5 trial. After the name of each witness, each party shall provide  
6 a brief statement of the nature of the testimony to be proffered.  
7 The parties may file a joint list or each party may file separate  
8 lists. These list(s) shall not be contained in the body of the  
9 Joint Final Pretrial Conference Statement itself, but shall be  
10 attached as separate documents to be used as addenda to the Final  
11 Pretrial Order.

12 Plaintiff's exhibits shall be listed numerically.  
13 Defendant's exhibits shall be listed alphabetically. The parties  
14 shall use the standard exhibit stickers provided by the Court  
15 Clerk's Office: pink for plaintiff and blue for defendant. In  
16 the event that the alphabet is exhausted, the exhibits shall be  
17 marked "AA-ZZ" and "AAA-ZZZ" etc. After three letters, note the  
18 number of letters in parenthesis (i.e., "AAA(4)") to reduce  
19 confusion at trial. All multi-page exhibits shall be stapled or  
20 otherwise fastened together and each page within the exhibit  
21 shall be numbered. All photographs shall be marked individually.  
22 The list of exhibits shall not include excerpts of depositions,  
23 which may be used to impeach witnesses. In the event that  
24 Plaintiff and Defendant offer the same exhibit during trial, that  
25 exhibit shall be referred to by the designation the exhibit is  
26 first identified. The Court cautions the parties to pay  
27 attention to this detail so that all concerned, including the  
28 jury, will not be confused by one exhibit being identified with



1 both a number and a letter.

2 The Final Pretrial Order will contain a stringent standard  
3 for the offering at trial of witnesses and exhibits not listed in  
4 the Final Pretrial Order, and the parties are cautioned that the  
5 standard will be strictly applied. On the other hand, the  
6 listing of exhibits or witnesses that a party does not intend to  
7 offer will be viewed as an abuse of the court's processes.

8 The parties also are reminded that pursuant to Rule 16 of  
9 the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure it will be their duty at the  
10 Final Pretrial Conference to aid the Court in: (a) the  
11 formulation and simplification of issues and the elimination of  
12 frivolous claims or defenses; (b) the settling of facts that  
13 should properly be admitted; and (c) the avoidance of unnecessary  
14 proof and cumulative evidence. Counsel must cooperatively  
15 prepare the Joint Final Pretrial Conference Statement and  
16 participate in good faith at the Final Pretrial Conference with  
17 these aims in mind. A failure to do so may result in the  
18 imposition of sanctions which may include monetary sanctions,  
19 orders precluding proof, elimination of claims or defenses, or  
20 such other sanctions as the Court deems appropriate.

21 IX. TRIAL BRIEFS

22 The parties shall file trial briefs not later than fourteen  
23 (14) days before trial. Counsel are directed to Local Rule 285  
24 regarding the content of trial briefs.

25 X. EVIDENTIARY AND/OR PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

26 It is the Court's practice to hear motions in limine on the  
27 first day of trial. However, depending on the number and nature  
28 of the parties' motions, the need to special set a hearing date

1 to hear such motions shall be addressed at the Final Pretrial  
2 Conference.

3 XI. TRIAL SETTING

4 The trial is set for **June 13, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.** Trial will  
5 be by jury. The panel will consist of **eight (8) jurors.** The  
6 length of trial shall be determined at the Final Pretrial  
7 Conference.

8 XII. SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

9 At the Final Pretrial Conference, the Court may set a  
10 settlement conference if the parties so request. In the event no  
11 settlement conference is requested, the parties are free to  
12 continue to mediate or attempt to settle the case with the  
13 understanding that the trial date is a firm date.

14 In the event a settlement conference is set by the Court,  
15 counsel are instructed to have a principal with full settlement  
16 authority present at the Settlement Conference or to be fully  
17 authorized to settle the matter on any terms. At least seven (7)  
18 calendar days before the settlement conference, counsel for each  
19 party shall submit to the chambers of the settlement judge a  
20 confidential Settlement Conference Statement. Such statements  
21 are neither to be filed with the Clerk nor served on opposing  
22 counsel. Each party, however, shall serve notice on all other  
23 parties that the statement has been submitted. If the settlement  
24 judge is not the trial judge, the Settlement Conference Statement  
25 shall not be disclosed to the trial judge.

26 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the parties may request a  
27 settlement conference prior to the Final Pretrial Conference if  
28 they feel it would lead to the possible resolution of the case.

1 In the event an early settlement conference date is  
2 requested, the parties shall file said request jointly, in  
3 writing. The request must state whether the parties waive  
4 disqualification, pursuant to Local Rule 270(b), before a  
5 settlement judge can be assigned to the case. Absent the  
6 parties' affirmatively requesting that the assigned Judge or  
7 Magistrate Judge participate in the settlement conference AND  
8 waiver, pursuant to Local Rule 270(b), a settlement judge will be  
9 randomly assigned to the case.

10 XIII. VOLUNTARY DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAM

11 Pursuant to Local Rule 271, parties may stipulate at any  
12 stage in the proceedings to refer the action, in whole or in  
13 part, to the Voluntary Dispute Resolution Program.

14 XIV. MODIFICATION OF PRETRIAL SCHEDULING ORDER

15 The parties are reminded that pursuant to Rule 16(b) of the  
16 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Pretrial Scheduling Order  
17 shall not be modified except by leave of court upon a showing of  
18 **good cause**. Agreement by the parties pursuant to stipulation  
19 alone to modify the Pretrial Scheduling Order does not constitute  
20 good cause. Except in extraordinary circumstances,  
21 unavailability of witnesses or counsel will not constitute good  
22 cause.

23 XV. OBJECTIONS TO PRETRIAL SCHEDULING ORDER

24 This Pretrial Scheduling Order will become final without  
25 further order of the Court unless objections are filed within  
26 fourteen (14) days of service of this Order.

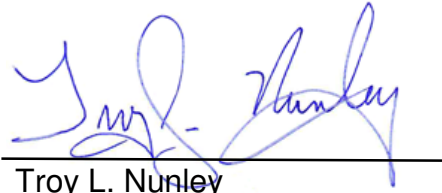
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IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: December 18, 2013



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Troy L. Nunley  
United States District Judge