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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
Northern District of California

Lopez,

Plaintiff(s),

No. C CV09-03229 MEJ

v.

**CASE MANAGEMENT ORDER**

Utiliquest, LLC,

Defendant(s).

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Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16, the Court hereby VACATES the October 22, 2009 Case Management Conference and ORDERS as follows:

A. ADR Program:

The parties are referred to private mediation.

B. Jury Trial

The Court shall conduct a jury trial in this matter.

C. Pretrial Motions:

All pretrial motions shall be filed in accordance with Civil Local Rule 7. A motion may be noticed pursuant to Civil Local Rule 7-2 without calling the Court. Civil law and motion is heard on Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m.

D. Discovery:

The parties shall abide by Magistrate Judge James' Standing Order Regarding Discovery and Dispute Procedures.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
For the Northern District of California

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E. Disclosure of Expert Witnesses:

1. Any party wishing to present expert witness testimony with respect to a claim or defense shall serve on all other parties the name, address, qualifications, resume, and a written report which complies with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2)(B) by 3/26/2010.
2. This disclosure must be made with respect to a person who is either: (a) specifically retained or specially employed to provide expert testimony pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 702; or (b) a regular employee or agent or treating physician who may be called to provide expert opinion testimony.
3. A party or counsel has a continuing duty to supplement the disclosure of expert witnesses when required under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(e)(1).

F. Rebuttal Expert Witnesses:

If the testimony of an expert is intended solely to contradict or rebut opinion testimony on the same subject matter identified by another party, the party proffering a rebuttal expert shall disclose the information required under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2)(B) by 4/5/2010.

G. Limitation on Testimony by Expert Witnesses:

1. Unless the parties enter into a written stipulation otherwise, upon timely objection, an expert witness shall be precluded from testifying about any actions or opinions not disclosed prior to the expert's deposition. This is to ensure that all factual material upon which expert opinion may be based is disclosed, and all tests and reports are completed, prior to the expert deposition.
2. Unless application is made prior to the close of expert discovery, each party is limited to calling only one expert witness in each discipline involved in the case.
3. Any party objecting to the admissibility of the testimony of a person disclosed as an expert

1 witness must file a written motion *in limine* to exclude the testimony by the deadline set forth  
2 below.

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4 H. Close of Discovery:

- 5 1. All discovery, including depositions of expert witnesses, must be completed by 4/20/2010.  
6 2. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(b) and Civil Local Rule 26-2, a discovery  
7 request or stipulation that calls for responses or depositions after the discovery cut-off date is  
8 not enforceable except by order of the Court and upon a showing of good cause.  
9 3. Pursuant to Civil Local Rule 26-2, no motions to compel discovery (including joint letters  
10 and requests for telephonic conferences under Magistrate Judge James' discovery standing  
11 order) may be filed later than 10 days after the discovery cut-off date.

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13 I. Dispositive Motions:

- 14 1. Pursuant to Civil Local Rule 7-2, all dispositive motions shall be filed, served, and noticed  
15 by 5/20/2010. **The parties shall file a joint statement of undisputed facts pursuant to**  
16 **Civil Local Rule 56-2(b) when filing a motion for summary judgment.**  
17 2. The Court shall hear dispositive motions on 6/24/2010 at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom B, 15th  
18 Floor of the Federal Building, located at 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco,  
19 California.

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21 J. Exchange and filing of Trial Papers:

- 22 1. By 8/25/2010 lead counsel who will try the case shall meet and confer with respect to the  
23 preparation and content of the joint pretrial conference statement and shall exchange (but not  
24 file or lodge) the papers described in paragraph 2 below.  
25 2. By 9/9/2010, counsel shall file the papers described in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure  
26 26(a)(3) and a joint pretrial conference statement including the following:  
27 (A) Substance of the Action: A brief description of the substance of claims and defenses  
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which remain to be decided.

- (B) Relief Prayed: A detailed statement of all the relief claimed, particularly itemizing all elements of damages claimed as well as witnesses, documents or other evidentiary material to be presented concerning the amount of damages.
- (C) Undisputed Facts: A plain and concise statement of all relevant facts not reasonably disputable, as well as which facts parties will stipulate for incorporation into the trial record without the necessity of supporting testimony or exhibits.
- (D) Disputed Factual Issues: A plain and concise statement of all disputed factual issues which remain to be decided.
- (E) Agreed Statement: A statement assessing whether all or part of the action may be presented upon an agreed statement of facts.
- (F) Stipulations: A statement of stipulations requested or proposed for pretrial or trial purposes.
- (G) Witness list: A list of all witnesses to be called for trial. The parties shall submit a page-length detailed summary of the substance of the proposed testimony of each witness, which shall also specify to which disputed fact the testimony relates, and an estimate of the time required for direct and cross examination of each witness.
- (H) Exhibit list: A list of all exhibits to be offered at trial. The list shall state each proposed exhibit by its number or alphabetical letter, description and sponsoring witness. All documents shall be authenticated prior to trial.
- (I) No party shall be permitted to offer any witness or exhibit that is not disclosed in its witness or exhibit list, except with leave of the Court for good cause shown.
- (J) Estimated Time of Trial: An estimate of the number of hours needed for the presentation of each party's case.
- (K) Settlement: A statement summarizing the status of the parties' settlement negotiations.

3. Motions *in limine*: Counsel are directed to meet and confer to resolve any evidentiary

- 1            disputes prior to filing motions *in limine*.
- 2            (A)    Any motions *in limine* shall be filed by 9/9/2010.
- 3            (B)    Any Opposition to motions *in limine* shall be filed by 9/16/2010.
- 4            (C)    These matters will be deemed submitted on the papers without oral argument, unless
- 5                            the Court orders otherwise.
- 6    4.    Trial Briefs: Counsel shall file trial briefs setting forth the applicable legal standard,
- 7                            pursuant to Ninth Circuit authority, for all significant disputed issues of law, including
- 8                            foreseeable procedural and evidentiary issues, by 9/24/2010.
- 9    5.    Joint Proposed Voir Dire: Counsel shall file a **joint** set of requested voir dire to be posed by
- 10                            the Court by 9/24/2010. Any voir dire questions on which counsel cannot agree shall also be
- 11                            filed separately by 9/24/2010. Counsel will be allowed brief follow-up voir dire after the
- 12                            Court's questioning.
- 13    6.    Joint Proposed Jury Instructions:
- 14            (A)    Jury instructions § 1.01 through § 2.02 and § 3.01 through § 3.15 from the Manual of
- 15                            Model Civil Jury Instructions for the Ninth Circuit will be given absent objection.
- 16                            Counsel shall file a **joint** set of additional proposed jury instructions by 9/24/2010.
- 17                            The instructions shall be ordered in a logical sequence, together with a table of
- 18                            contents.
- 19            (B)    Any instruction on which counsel cannot agree shall be marked as "disputed" and
- 20                            included within the jointly submitted instructions and accompanying table of
- 21                            contents, in the place where the party proposing the instruction believes it should be
- 22                            given. Argument and authority for and against each disputed instruction shall be
- 23                            included as part of the joint submission, on a separate page directly following the
- 24                            disputed instruction.
- 25            (C)    The Court prefers that all jury instructions conform to the Manual of Model Civil
- 26                            Jury Instructions for the Ninth Circuit.
- 27            (D)    Counsel shall deliver to the Courtroom Deputy a copy of their joint proposed jury
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1 instructions on a portable storage medium (such as a USB thumb drive) in  
2 WordPerfect format. The label shall include the name of the parties, the case number  
3 and be entitled “Proposed Jury Instructions.”

4 (E) At the close of Defendant’s case in chief, the Court shall hear oral argument on the  
5 disputed jury instructions and will then render its rulings.

6 7. Proposed Verdict Forms, Joint or Separate: Counsel shall file any **joint** proposed verdict  
7 forms, as well as any separate verdict forms, by 9/24/2010. Counsel shall deliver to the  
8 Courtroom Deputy a copy of their joint proposed verdict forms on a portable storage medium  
9 in WordPerfect. The label shall include the name of the parties, the case number, and be  
10 entitled “Proposed Verdict Forms.”

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12 K. Pretrial Conference:

13 On 9/23/2010 at 10:00 a.m., the Court shall hold a pretrial conference in Courtroom B, 15th  
14 Floor, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California. Lead counsel who will try the  
15 case **must** attend the pretrial conference. The purpose of the pretrial conference is for the  
16 Court to rule on any issues raised in the pretrial conference statement, motions *in limine*, and  
17 to discuss the trial of the case.

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19 L. Final Pretrial Conference:

20 On 10/21/2010 at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom B, the Court shall hold a final pretrial conference  
21 to address any outstanding trial issues.

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23 M. Trial Date:

24 1. The trial shall commence (with jury selection taking place) on 10/25/2010 (Trial schedule:  
25 Monday through Thursday, at 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.). The trial shall last 4 days.

26 2. For any documents, including the deposition of a witness testifying at trial, which will be  
27 shown to a witness but not admitted into evidence, counsel shall bring the original plus three  
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1 copies of the documents. The original document will be handed to the Court during  
2 testimony and the copies will be given to the witness during the examination and to opposing  
3 counsel.

4 3. (A) Counsel shall maintain their own exhibits during trial. Exhibits are to be premarked  
5 with exhibit tags attached to the upper lefthand corner. If a photo or chart is being  
6 used as an exhibit, the exhibit tag should be placed on the back side of the exhibit.  
7 The Court will only admit premarked exhibits which were listed on the earlier filed  
8 exhibit list.

9 (B) Plaintiff shall mark the exhibits numerically; Defendant shall mark the exhibits  
10 alphabetically. The exhibit markers shall each contain the name and number of the  
11 case, the number or alphabetical letter of the exhibit, and blank spaces to  
12 accommodate the date admitted and the Deputy Clerk's initials.

13 4. On the day of trial, counsel shall bring the original premarked exhibits, a copy of the  
14 premarked exhibits for opposing counsel, and two binders which contain a copy of each  
15 side's premarked exhibits for the Court. The premarked exhibit binders are to be designated  
16 with label dividers and given to the Courtroom Deputy on the morning of the trial.

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18 N. Jury Selection:

19 1. The Jury Commissioner will summon 20 to 25 prospective jurors. The Courtroom Deputy  
20 will select their names at random and seat them in the courtroom in the order in which their  
21 names are called.

22 2. Voir dire will be asked of sufficient venire persons that eight (or more for a lengthy trial) will  
23 remain after all peremptory challenges and an anticipated number of hardship dismissals and  
24 cause challenges have been made.

25 3. The Court will then take cause challenges and discuss hardship claims from the individual  
26 jurors at side bar. The Court will inform the attorneys which hardship claims and cause  
27 challenges will be granted, but will not announce those dismissals until the process is  
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1 completed. Each attorney may then list in writing up to three peremptory challenges. The  
2 attorneys will review each other's lists and then submit them to the clerk.  
3 4. From the list of jurors in numerical order, the Court will strike the persons with meritorious  
4 hardships, those excused for cause, and those challenged peremptorily. The Court will then  
5 call the first eight people in numerical sequence remaining. These people will be the jury.  
6 All jurors remaining at the close of the case will deliberate. There are no alternates (unless  
7 there is a lengthy trial).

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9 O. Sanctions:  
10 Failure to comply with this Order is cause for sanctions under Federal Rule of Civil  
11 Procedure 16(f).

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13 P. Transcripts and Recording Devices:  
14 1. Counsel requesting a daily transcript shall contact Debra Campbell, Supervisor Court  
15 Reporting Services, at (415) 522-2079, at least ten days in advance of the trial date.  
16 2. If any video or tape recording equipment or demonstrative devices will be used, a signed  
17 order will need to be obtained at least ten days in advance of the trial date for the items to  
18 clear security.

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20 Q. Questions:  
21 All questions regarding these instructions should be directed to Brenda Tolbert, Courtroom  
22 Deputy Clerk to Judge James, at (415) 522-4708.

23 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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25 Dated: October 16, 2009

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28 Maria-Elena James  
Chief United States Magistrate Judge