

United States District Court
For the Northern District of California

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ORACLE AMERICA, INC.,

Plaintiff,

No. C 10-03561 WHA

v.

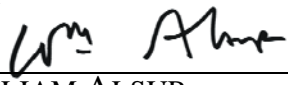
GOOGLE INC.,

Defendant.

**TENTATIVE CASE
MANAGEMENT ORDER**

For the upcoming case management conference, counsel will please find appended a tentative case management order which should be critiqued in the joint statement and at the conference.

Dated: November 10, 2010.



WILLIAM ALSUP
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ORACLE AMERICA, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

GOOGLE INC.,

Defendant.

No. C 10-03561 WHA

**TENTATIVE CASE MANAGEMENT
ORDER, REFERENCE TO MAGISTRATE
JUDGE FOR SETTLEMENT/
MEDIATION, AND FURTHER
REFERENCE TO MAGISTRATE JUDGE
FOR DISCOVERY SUPERVISION**

After a case management conference, the Court enters the following order pursuant to Rule 16 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (“FRCP”) and Civil Local Rule 16-10:

1. All initial disclosures under FRCP 26 must be completed by **NOVEMBER 22, 2010**, on pain of preclusion, including full and faithful compliance with FRCP 26(a)(1)(A)(iii).
2. Leave to add any new parties or pleading amendments must be sought by **DECEMBER 31, 2010**.
3. The claim-construction hearing will be held on **APRIL 20, 2011, AT 1:30 P.M.** Counsel shall meet and confer and propose a briefing schedule leading up to the hearing. This proposed schedule must be filed by **NOVEMBER 24, 2010**, and entitled “PROPOSED ORDER RE SCHEDULE FOR CLAIM CONSTRUCTION.”
4. For the claim-construction hearing, the parties must isolate no more than **SIX PHRASES** in all claims at issue and limit the hearing to those phrases. All other phrases in dispute will be determined at trial absent further order. In the Court's experience, most patent

1 cases turn on the meaning of only a few phrases. Once defined, the case will usually
2 resolve by motion or settlement. If it does not, then the Court will construe any
3 remaining phrases at issue during summary judgment or, at a minimum, before the jury
4 is instructed. Counsel must conduct the presentations at the claim-construction hearing.
5 Expert testimony will normally not be needed but all sides may have an expert present to
6 address points outside the intrinsic record should they arise. In the briefing on claim
7 construction, please include a precis of the eventual summary-judgment issues and how
8 claim construction differences may affect summary judgment. A tutorial for the Court
9 (to be conducted by counsel only, not experts) shall be set for **APRIL 6, 2011, AT**
10 **1:30 P.M.**

- 11 5. The non-expert discovery cut-off date shall be **JULY 29, 2011**.
- 12 6. The deadline for producing opinions of counsel under Patent Local Rule 3-8 shall be
13 **28 CALENDAR DAYS** before the non-expert discovery cut-off, irrespective of the timeline
14 in said rule.
- 15 7. Subject to the exception in the next paragraph, the last date for designation of expert
16 testimony and disclosure of full expert reports under FRCP 26(a)(2) as to any issue on
17 which a party has the burden of proof (“opening reports”) shall be **JULY 29, 2011**.
18 Within **FOURTEEN CALENDAR DAYS** of said deadline, all other parties must disclose any
19 expert reports on the same issue (“opposition reports”). Within **SEVEN CALENDAR DAYS**
20 thereafter, the party with the burden of proof must disclose any reply reports rebutting
21 specific material in opposition reports. Reply reports must be limited to true rebuttal
22 and should be very brief. They should not add new material that should have been
23 placed in the opening report and the reply material will ordinarily be reserved for the
24 rebuttal or sur-rebuttal phase of the trial. If the party with the burden of proof neglects
25 to make a timely disclosure, the other side, if it wishes to put in expert evidence on the
26 same issue anyway, must disclose its expert report within the fourteen-day period.
27 In that event, the party with the burden of proof on the issue may then file a reply expert
28 report within the seven-day period, subject to possible exclusion for “sandbagging”

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and, at all events, any such reply material may be presented at trial only after, if at all, the other side actually presents expert testimony to which the reply is responsive. The cutoff for all expert discovery shall be **FOURTEEN CALENDAR DAYS** after the deadline for reply reports. In aid of preparing an opposition or reply report, a responding party may depose the adverse expert sufficiently before the deadline for the opposition or reply report so as to use the testimony in preparing the response. Experts must make themselves readily available for such depositions. Alternatively, the responding party can elect to depose the expert later in the expert-discovery period. An expert, however, may be deposed only once unless the expert is used for different opening and/or opposition reports, in which case the expert may be deposed independently on the subject matter of each report. At least **28 CALENDAR DAYS** before the due date for opening reports, each party shall serve a list of issues on which it will offer any expert testimony in its case-in-chief (including from non-retained experts). This is so that all parties will be timely able to obtain counter-experts on the listed issues and to facilitate the timely completeness of all expert reports. Failure to so disclose may result in preclusion.

8. Any party seeking monetary damages must serve all of its damages report **SEVENTY CALENDAR DAYS** before other non-damages opening reports are due. Within **FOURTEEN CALENDAR DAYS** of receipt of such damages reports, the opposing side must file any *Daubert* or other motion directed at the methodology, reliability or other defect, said motion to be heard on a normal 35-day track. The opposition report will be due **FOURTEEN CALENDAR DAYS** after the ruling on such motion with any reply due **SEVEN CALENDAR DAYS** thereafter. One purpose of this timing is to give the party seeking damages a brief window in which to cure (if possible) any flaws in the study.
9. As to damages studies, the cut-off date for *past damages* will be as of the expert report (or such earlier date as the expert may select). In addition, the experts may try to project *future damages* (i.e., after the cut-off date) if the substantive standards for future

1 damages can be met. With timely leave of Court or by written stipulation, the experts
2 may update their reports (with supplemental reports) to a date closer to the time of trial.

3 10. At trial, the direct testimony of experts will be limited to the matters disclosed in their
4 reports. Omitted material may not ordinarily be added on direct examination. This
5 means the reports must be complete and sufficiently detailed. Illustrative animations,
6 diagrams, charts and models may be used on direct examination only if they were part of
7 the expert's report, with the exception of simple drawings and tabulations that plainly
8 illustrate what is already in the report, which can be drawn by the witness at trial or
9 otherwise shown to the jury. If cross-examination fairly opens the door, however, an
10 expert may go beyond the written report on cross-examination and/or redirect
11 examination. By written stipulation, of course, all sides may relax these requirements.
12 For trial, an expert must learn and testify to the full amount of billing and unbilled time
13 by him or his firm on the engagement.

14 11. To head off a recurring problem, experts lacking percipient knowledge should avoid
15 vouching for the credibility of witnesses, *i.e.*, whose version of the facts in dispute is
16 correct. This means that they may not, for example, testify that based upon a review of
17 fact depositions and other material supplied by counsel, a police officer did (or did not)
18 violate standards. Rather, the expert should be asked for his or her opinion based —
19 explicitly — upon an assumed fact scenario. This will make clear that the witness is not
20 attempting to make credibility and fact findings and thereby to invade the province of
21 the jury. Of course, a qualified expert can testify to relevant customs, usages, practices,
22 recognized standards of conduct, and other specialized matters beyond the ken of a lay
23 jury. This subject is addressed further in the trial guidelines referenced in paragraph 19
24 below.

25 12. Counsel need not request a motion hearing date and may notice non-discovery motions
26 for any Thursday (excepting holidays) at 8:00 a.m. The Court sometimes rules on the
27 papers, issuing a written order and vacating the hearing. If a written request for oral
28 argument is filed before a ruling, stating that a lawyer of four or fewer years out of law

- 1 school will conduct the oral argument or at least the lion's share, then the Court will
2 hear oral argument, believing that young lawyers need more opportunities for
3 appearances than they usually receive. Discovery motions should be as per the
4 supplemental order referenced in paragraph 19 and shall be expedited.
- 5 13. The last date to file dispositive motions shall be **SEPTEMBER 8, 2011**. No dispositive
6 motions shall be heard more than 35 days *after* this deadline, *i.e.*, if any party waits until
7 the last day to file, then the parties must adhere to the 35-day track in order to avoid
8 pressure on the trial date.
- 9 14. The **FINAL PRETRIAL CONFERENCE** shall be at **2:00 P.M. on OCTOBER 17, 2011**. For
10 the form of submissions for the final pretrial conference and trial, please see
11 paragraph 19 below.
- 12 15. A **JURY TRIAL** shall begin on **OCTOBER 31, 2011**, at **7:30 A.M.**, in Courtroom 9,
13 19th Floor, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California, 94102. The trial
14 schedule and time limits shall be set at the final pretrial conference. Although almost all
15 trials proceed on the date scheduled, it may be necessary on occasion for a case to trail,
16 meaning the trial may commence a few days or even a few weeks after the date stated
17 above, due to calendar congestion and the need to give priority to criminal trials.
18 Counsel and the parties should plan accordingly, including advising witnesses.
- 19 16. Counsel may not stipulate around the foregoing dates without Court approval.
- 20 17. While the Court encourages the parties to engage in settlement discussions, please do
21 not ask for any extensions on the ground of settlement discussions or on the ground that
22 the parties experienced delays in scheduling settlement conferences, mediation or ENE.
23 The parties should proceed to prepare their cases for trial. No continuance (even if
24 stipulated) shall be granted on the ground of incomplete preparation without competent
25 and detailed declarations setting forth good cause.
- 26 18. To avoid any misunderstanding with respect to the final pretrial conference and trial, the
27 Court wishes to emphasize that all filings and appearances must be made — on pain of
28 dismissal, default or other sanction — unless and until a dismissal fully resolving the

1 case is received. It will not be enough to inform the clerk that a settlement in principle
2 has been reached or to lodge a partially executed settlement agreement or to lodge a
3 fully executed agreement (or dismissal) that resolves less than the entire case. Where,
4 however, a fully-executed settlement agreement clearly and fully disposing of the entire
5 case is lodged reasonably in advance of the pretrial conference or trial and only a
6 ministerial act remains, the Court will arrange a telephone conference to work out an
7 alternate procedure pending a formal dismissal.

8 19. If you have not already done so, please read and follow the “Supplemental Order to
9 Order Setting Initial Case Management Conference in Civil Cases Before Judge William
10 Alsup” and other orders issued by the Clerk’s office when this action was commenced.
11 Among other things, the supplemental order explains when submissions are to go to the
12 Clerk’s Office (the general rule) versus when submissions may go directly to chambers
13 (rarely). With respect to the final pretrial conference and trial, please read and follow
14 the “Guidelines For Trial and Final Pretrial Conference in Civil [Jury/Bench] Cases
15 Before The Honorable William Alsup.” All orders and guidelines referenced in the
16 paragraph are available on the district court’s website at <http://www.cand.uscourts.gov>.
17 The website also includes other guidelines for attorney’s fees motions and the necessary
18 form of attorney time records for cases before Judge Alsup. If you do not have access to
19 the Internet, you may contact Deputy Clerk Dawn K. Toland at (415) 522-2020 to learn
20 how to pick up a hard copy.

21 19. This matter is hereby **REFERRED** to **MAGISTRATE JUDGE** * _____
22 for **SETTLEMENT/MEDIATION**, the Court believing that such a conference would be
23 more effective in settling the present case than any other avenue.

24 20. This case is **REFERRED** to a **MAGISTRATE JUDGE** to be assigned for resolution of all
25 discovery motions. The deadline for bringing all discovery motions or extension
26 motions based on discovery violations will be **45 CALENDAR DAYS** prior to the fact
27 discovery cutoff (for fact discovery) and **TEN CALENDAR DAYS** prior to the expert
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discovery cutoff (for expert discovery). The purpose of these lead times is to allow briefing, resolution and follow-up, to the extent practical, before the discovery cutoffs.

21. All pretrial disclosures under FRCP 26(a)(3) and objections required by FRCP 26(a)(3) must be made on the schedule established by said rule.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: Draft

Draft

WILLIAM ALSUP
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE