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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JESSIKA ALEXIS

Plaintiff,

v.

ASSET ACCEPTANCE

Defendant.

No. C 14 - 5154 TEH

ORDER FOR PRETRIAL
PREPARATION

Good cause appearing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. **TRIAL DATE.** Trial before the COURT JURY will begin in Courtroom No. 2 on APRIL 26, 2016 at 9:00 AM. If the Court advises counsel that they must be prepared to go to trial on a trailing basis, then the trial will begin as soon after the scheduled date as possible. The trial shall last for an estimated 3 trial days. The trial of liability and damages issues SHALL SHALL NOT be separate.

2. **PRETRIAL CONFERENCE.** The Court will hold a pretrial conference on Monday, APR 11, 2016, at 3:00 PM. Counsel who intend to try the case must attend the pretrial conference.

3. **DISCOVERY.**

(a) **Discovery Cutoff.** All discovery, except for depositions of expert witnesses, shall be **completed** on or before JAN 11, 2016. All depositions of expert witnesses shall be completed no later than 7 calendar days before the pretrial conference.

1 **5. PRETRIAL CONFERENCE STATEMENT.**

2 (a) **Required Meeting and Disclosure Prior to Pretrial Conference.** Lead
3 counsel who will try the case shall meet and confer on or before MARCH 11, 2016 (at
4 least 30 calendar days before the pretrial conference). At that time, they shall discuss:

5 (1) Prospects for settling the action;

6 (2) The preparation and content of the joint pretrial conference statement;

7 (3) The preparation and exchange of pretrial materials to be served and lodged
8 with the Court; and

9 (4) Resolution of any differences between the parties regarding items (2) and (3)
10 above. To the extent such differences are not resolved, the parties must present the issues in
11 the joint pretrial conference statement so that the Judge may rule on the disputes at the
12 pretrial conference.

13 Within one week after meeting and conferring, the parties shall file a joint statement,
14 signed by all counsel, stating that they have met and conferred on the above issues.

15
16 (b) **Joint Pretrial Conference Statement.** The parties shall file a joint pretrial
17 conference statement no later than 10 calendar days before the pretrial conference. If the
18 parties disagree over the wording of the statement, each party may state its position in its own
19 words. All parties or their counsel must sign the statement. The statement shall contain the
20 following information:

21 (1) **The Action.**

22 (A) **Substance of the Action.** A brief description of the substance of
23 claims and defenses that remain to be decided.

24 (B) **Relief Prayed.** A detailed statement of the relief claimed, including
25 an itemization of all claimed damages, along with a list of witnesses, documents, or other
26 evidentiary material to be presented on the amount of damages.

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1 **(2) The Factual Basis of the Action.**

2 **(A) Undisputed Facts.** A plain and concise statement of all relevant facts
3 not reasonably disputable. This should include a statement of facts which the parties
4 stipulate may be incorporated into the trial record without supporting testimony or exhibits.

5 **(B) Disputed Factual Issues.** A plain and concise statement of all
6 disputed factual issues that remain to be decided.

7 **(C) Agreed Statement.** A statement assessing whether all or part of the
8 action may be presented upon an agreed statement of facts.

9 **(D) Stipulations.** A statement of stipulations requested or proposed for
10 pretrial or trial purposes.

11

12 **(3) Trial Preparation.**

13 **(A) Estimate of Trial Time.** An estimate of the number of court days
14 needed for the presentation of each party's case, indicating possible reductions in time
15 through proposed stipulations, agreed statements of facts, or expedited means of presenting
16 testimony and exhibits.

17 **(B) Witnesses to be Called.** A list of all witnesses likely to be called at
18 trial, other than solely for impeachment or rebuttal, together with a brief statement following
19 each name describing the substance of the testimony to be given. Parties must indicate any
20 objections to the use of the listed witnesses and shall certify that counsel have met and
21 conferred regarding such objections. No party shall be permitted to call any witness in their
22 case in chief that is not disclosed in the pretrial conference statement unless the Court grants
23 leave for good cause shown.

24 **(C) Use of Discovery Responses.** A list of evidence that may be presented
25 at trial, other than solely for impeachment or rebuttal, through use of excerpts from
26 depositions, interrogatory answers, or responses to requests for admission. Parties must
27 indicate any objections to use of these materials and shall certify that counsel have met and
28 conferred regarding such objections.

1 (c) **Pretrial Order.** The Court may, as appropriate, make pretrial orders at or
2 following the pretrial conference. Such orders shall control the subsequent course of the
3 action as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16.
4

5 **6. TRIAL PREPARATION DEADLINES.**

6 (a) **Motions in Limine.** The only appropriate purpose for a motion in limine is to
7 obtain, in advance of trial, an evidentiary ruling on the admissibility of a specific piece of
8 evidence. Unless otherwise allowed by the Court, all motions in limine shall be filed no later
9 than 21 calendar days before the scheduled trial date, and written opposition to such motions
10 shall be filed no later than 14 calendar days before the trial date. **All motions in limine must**
11 **be accompanied by a declaration stating that counsel have met and conferred in good**
12 **faith regarding the motions prior to their filing, and that the parties are unable to**
13 **resolve informally any remaining disputes.**
14

15 (b) **Exhibits.** Two sets of all exhibits to be offered at trial, together with a list of
16 exhibits, shall be lodged with the Court no later than 7 calendar days before the scheduled
17 trial date. Exhibits must be placed in three-ring binders of no more than three inches each
18 and must be pre-marked in accordance with the attached forms.
19

20 (c) **Objections to Evidence.** Counsel shall meet and confer with respect to any
21 evidentiary objections in advance of the pretrial conference. They shall advise the Court at
22 the pretrial conference if any objections contained in their joint pretrial conference statement
23 have been subsequently resolved.
24

25 (d) **Jury Instructions.** If a jury trial has been demanded, the parties shall meet and
26 confer to discuss proposed jury instructions. The Court uses its own set of standard
27 instructions regarding the role of jurors, organization of the jury, communication with the
28 Court, etc., and the parties need not discuss such instructions during their meeting and

1 conferring. No later than 10 calendar days before the pretrial conference, the parties shall
2 file (a) proposed jury instructions upon which all parties have agreed and (b) jury instructions
3 upon which any other party does not agree. The proposed jury instructions must be
4 accompanied by a declaration stating that the parties have met and conferred in good faith in
5 an attempt to agree upon as many jury instructions as possible. The chambers copies of all
6 proposed jury instructions shall be accompanied by an electronic copy of the instructions in
7 Word or Word Perfect format.

8 For each disputed instruction, the offering party shall indicate the corresponding
9 instruction(s), if any, being proposed by other parties. The parties shall file written
10 objections to all disputed instructions no later than 7 calendar days before the scheduled trial
11 date.

12 All proposed jury instructions shall be concise and free from argument; cover only one
13 subject to be indicated in the caption; show the identity of the offering party; be typewritten
14 out in full on a separate page or pages; be consecutively numbered; and set forth specific
15 citations to supporting authority. Case citations must include pinpoint citations to the exact
16 page or pages that support the proposed instruction.

17
18 (e) **Voir Dire**. If a jury trial has been demanded, the parties may, at their option,
19 submit proposed questions for voir dire. Any such questions must be filed no later than 10
20 calendar days before the pretrial conference.

21
22 (f) **Special Verdict Forms**. If a jury trial has been demanded, the parties shall meet
23 and confer to discuss any desired special verdict forms. The parties shall follow the
24 procedure outlined in paragraph 6(d) in filing their proposed verdict forms.

25
26 7. **TRANSCRIPTS**. Arrangements must be made with the Courtroom Deputy at least
27 14 calendar days before the scheduled trial date if the parties desire daily transcripts and/or
28 realtime reporting.

1 **8. SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE.** The parties SHALL/SHALL NOT arrange for a
2 mandatory settlement conference before Magistrate Judge BEEER of this Court.
3 This conference shall be scheduled to take place no later than 5 calendar days before the
4 pretrial conference.

5
6 **9. FURTHER CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE.** A further case management
7 conference will be held on Monday, N/A, at 1:30 PM.

8
9 **10. PROCEDURE FOR AMENDING THIS ORDER.** No provision of this order may
10 be changed except by written order of this Court. The Court may enter such an order upon its
11 own motion or upon motion of one or more of the parties. The parties must make any such
12 motion in accordance with the Civil Local Rules and with a demonstration of very good
13 cause. The mere fact that the parties have stipulated to a change does not constitute good
14 cause, nor does a conflict with a court date set after the date of this order.

15
16 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

17
18 Dated: 3/9/15

Thelton E. Henderson
THELTON E. HENDERSON, JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

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21 The parties request the Court to make the foregoing order.

22 Attorney(s) for Plaintiff(s):

Attorney(s) for Defendant(s):

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Liane Majilyan

United States District Court

Northern District of California

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Case No. _____
PLTF Exhibit No. 1
Date Entered _____
Signature _____

Case No. _____
DEFT Exhibit No. A
Date Entered _____
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Case No. _____
PLTF Exhibit No. 2
Date Entered _____
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Case No. _____
DEFT Exhibit No. B
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Case No. _____
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Case No. _____
DEFT Exhibit No. C
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Case No. _____
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Case No. _____
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Case No. _____
PLTF Exhibit No. 5
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Case No. _____
DEFT Exhibit No. E
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Case No. _____
PLTF Exhibit No. 6
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Case No. _____
DEFT Exhibit No. F
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