# For the Northern District of California

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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BENJAMIN PEREZ,

Plaintiff,

v.

MONSTER INC., et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 15-cv-03885-EMC

ORDER DENYING DEFENDANTS' NEWED MOTION FOR EXPEDITED DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM NONDISPOSITIVE PRETRIAL ORDER OF MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Docket Nos. 96, 98

Currently pending before the Court are two motions: (1) Defendants' renewed motion for an expedited hearing on their pending motion to stay, see Docket No. 96 (motion), and (2) Defendants' motion for relief from a nondispositive pretrial order of Judge Ryu. See Docket No. 98 (motion). The Court addresses each of these motions below.

### I. <u>DEFENDANTS' RENEWED MOTION FOR AN EXPEDITED HEARING</u>

Defendants have filed a motion to stay proceedings in the instant case based on a proposed settlement of a class action currently pending before an Illinois state court. See Docket No. 82 (motion). Previously, Defendants asked for their stay motion to be heard on shortened time, but the Court denied that motion and set the hearing on the stay motion for August 18, 2016. See Docket No. 86 (order). Defendants have now filed a motion asking for an immediate stay or, alternatively, for the hearing on the stay motion be advanced to August 4, 2016 – primarily because Judge Ryu had ordered Best Buy to produce documents by August 5, 2016. See Docket No. 95 (DMR order). That August 5 deadline has now been extended by an order from this Court to August 12, 2016. See Docket No. 101 (order).

Defendants' alternative request for relief is moot since the Court has now extended the

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production deadline to August 12. However, as noted above, Defendants are also seeking an immediate stay, and this request for relief is still ripe even with the extended August 12 production deadline. Defendants' request for an immediate stay is denied. The Court will not halt the discovery process in its entirety, especially as Defendants' motion to stay will be heard soon and Defendants' prejudice argument is dependent on the Illinois state court approving the proposed class action settlement. However, recognizing that there is some burden to Defendants, the Court shall no longer require Defendants to produce documents on August 12. Instead, the Court orders the parties to meet and confer and devise a *concrete* discovery plan by August 12 (e.g., addressing what categories of documents shall be produced and on what specific timeline, which may include a phased or rolling production). Defendants shall be prepared to begin production on August 18, although actual production will be dependent on how the Court resolves the stay motion on the merits.

## II. DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM NONDISPOSITIVE PRETRIAL **ORDER**

Defendants have moved for relief with respect to Judge Ryu's order of July 29, 2016. See Docket No. 95 (DMR order). Best Buy had asked Judge Ryu to extend its production deadline from July 31, 2016, to August 26, 2016. See Docket No. 93 (joint letter). Judge Ryu ordered Best Buy to produce documents by August 5. See Docket No. 95 (DMR order).

Defendants' motion for relief is denied. The motion is moot in light of this order. In any event, the Court also notes that Defendants have failed to show that Judge Ryu committed clear error. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(a) (providing that a district court "must consider timely objections and modify or set aside any part of the [magistrate judge] order that is clearly erroneous or is contrary to law"); see also Civ. L.R. 72-2 (providing that a response to a motion for relief from a nondispositive pretrial order of a magistrate judge need not be filed unless ordered by the district court).

### III. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Defendants' motions are denied but Defendants are provided the limited relief described above. The Court's ruling herein does not resolve in any way the motion

## United States District Court For the Northern District of California

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to stay set for hearing on August 18.

This order disposes of Docket Nos. 96 and 98.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: August 8, 2016

EDWARD M. CHEN United States District Judge