that approach was sensible earlier in this case, it appears to be becoming an obstacle to efficient discovery and trial preparation by the parties remaining in this case.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, no later than February 17, 2009, the parties shall each file a brief responding to the court's inquiry of whether it still makes sense to conduct separate trials, or whether it would be more efficient at this time to complete all discovery and try the entire case. The ultimate determination will be up to District Judge Ware, but this court wishes to obtain the parties' current input on that question in order to make informed and sound recommendations to District Judge Ware regarding a plan for advancing this case to trial.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, no later than February 17, 2009, the parties shall also file either joint or respective proposed pretrial schedule and discovery plan. This case is almost seven years old, and the court is not inclined to recommend a schedule that extends into 2010. Based on the briefs filed by the parties and Judge Ware's scheduling practices in other cases, the court is tentatively considering the schedule set forth in the table following this paragraph. The parties are encouraged to meet and confer to try to reach agreement on either this schedule or one with roughly the same time segments that results in a Preliminary Pretrial Conference and Trial Setting date in November or December of this year. The parties shall also set forth their proposals for how many additional interrogatories and depositions should be permitted going forward.

TENTATIVE PROPOSED CASE SCHEDULE

Expert Disclosures	June 22, 2009
(63 days before close of discovery)	
Rebuttal Expert Disclosures	July 6, 2009
(49 days before close of discovery)	
Close of All Discovery	August 24, 2009
Last Day for Hearing Dispositive Motions	September 28, 2009
(42 days before Preliminary Pretrial Conference)	
Preliminary Pretrial Conference Statements Due	November 6, 2009
(10 days before Preliminary Pretrial Conference)	
Preliminary Pretrial Conference and Trial Setting	November 16, 2009

Dated: 2/6/09

United States Magistrate Judge