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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

PINNACLE FITNESS AND RECREATION MANAGEMENT, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company,	)	Case No.: 08cv1368 AJB (BGS)
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	ORDER GRANTING
v.	)	MOTION TO AMEND AND DENYING
	)	DEFENDANTS MOTIONS FOR
THE JERRY AND VICKIE MOYES FAMILY TRUST, an Arizona Trust,	)	SUMMARY JUDGMENT AS MOOT AND
	)	WITHOUT PREJUDICE
Defendants.	)	[Doc. Nos. 107, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131,
	)	132, 133, 134 and 142]
<hr/>	)	
AND RELATED COUNTER CLAIMS.	)	
<hr/>	)	

Pinnacle Fitness and Recreation Management, LLC (“Pinnacle”) filed this action on July 29, 2008 against the Jerry and Vickie Moyes Family Trust (“the Trust”), Deer Valley Capital, LLC, and Carefree Capital Investments, LLC alleging causes of action including breach of contract, fiduciary duty, and covenant of good faith and fair dealing and seeking (1) judicial declaration that Plaintiff and the Moyes Trust entered into a valid and enforceable Buy-Out Agreement whereby Moyes Trust agreed to purchase Plaintiff’s entire 50% interest in MFC; (2) judicial enforcement of the Buy-Out Agreement; (3) immediate payment to Plaintiff of all consideration due under the Buy-Out Agreement; and, (4) compensatory and punitive damages. (Pl.’s Comp. ¶ 6.).<sup>1</sup> (Doc. No. 1.)

<sup>1</sup> On September 8, 2009, the Court issued an order dismissing Deer Valley Capital, LLC and Carefree Capital Investments, LLC for lack of personal jurisdiction. (Doc. No. 17.)

1 On March 10, 2011, Pinnacle filed motion for leave to file a First Amended Complaint (“FAC”),  
2 in which they seek to add a Ninth Cause of Action for fraud and a Tenth Cause of Action for  
3 constructive fraud. Defendants oppose the motion. The hearing date for this motion set for April 27,  
4 2011 at 4:00 p.m. is hereby vacated as this matter is appropriate for submission on the papers without  
5 oral argument pursuant to Civil Local Rule 7.1(d)(1). For the reasons set forth below, the Plaintiffs’  
6 motion for leave to amend is hereby GRANTED. In as much as the Court has GRANTED Plaintiff  
7 leave to amend, the Defendants’ Motions for Partial Summary Judgment, [Doc. Nos. 127, 128, 129, 130,  
8 131, 132, 133 and 134] are hereby DENIED AS MOOT and Plaintiff’s Ex Parte Motion to Strike, [Doc.  
9 No. 142], is DENIED AS MOOT.

### 10 Background

#### 11 ***1. Relevant Procedural Background***

12 The deadline to amend pleadings was June 14, 2010. [Doc. Nos. 40 and 41.] The fact discovery  
13 and expert discovery was to be completed on or before March 25, 2011. [Doc. No. 97.] All motions,  
14 other than motions to amend or join parties, or motions in limine, must be filed on or before April 15,  
15 2011 and were set for hearing on May 16, 2011. *Id.* The final pretrial conference was vacated by Judge  
16 Huff prior to the case being transferred to Judge Battaglia. *Id.* A hearing on the parties’ motions in  
17 limine is set for July 18, 2011 at 10:30 a.m. in courtroom 12. [Doc. No. 71.] All motions in limine  
18 should be filed in accordance with Local Civil Rule 7.1(e). *Id.* The trial is set to begin on July 19, 2011  
19 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 12.

#### 20 ***2. Relevant Factual Background***

21 This action centers around an agreement between the Trust and Pinnacle Fitness and Recreation  
22 Management, LLC (“Pinnacle Fitness”) to jointly provide funding for and invest in a number of fitness  
23 facilities owned by Xeptor, LLC (“Xeptor”). On July 29, 2010, Pinnacle Fitness brought the original  
24 action against the Trust, alleging causes of action including breach of contract, fiduciary duty, and  
25 covenant of good faith and fair dealing. (Doc. No. 1.) On July 6, 2010, the Trust filed its answer to the  
26 original complaint and its counterclaims against Pinnacle Fitness. (Doc. No. 50.) On August 6, 2010, the  
27 Trust filed a third-party complaint against Marsha Forsythe-Fournier, alleging causes of action for  
28 breach of fiduciary duty and interference with contract and business advantage. (Doc. No. 61

1 (“Compl.”.) Third-Party Defendant Marsha Forsythe-Fournier is the sole member of Pinnacle Fitness.  
2 (Compl. ¶ 2.)

3 Both Pinnacle Fitness and the Trust were approached to help assist Xeptor, which owned and  
4 operated struggling fitness and gym facilities in Arizona. (Compl. ¶ 7.) The Trust and Pinnacle Fitness  
5 both agreed and jointly formed MFC Investments, LLC (“MFC”) to provide funding and assistance to  
6 Xeptor. (*Id.* ¶ 21.) On August 6, 2007, Pinnacle Fitness and the Trust entered into the Operating  
7 Agreement of MFC Investments, LLC (“Operating Agreement”). (*Id.* ¶ 22.) The Operating Agreement  
8 stated that Pinnacle Fitness and the Trust each owned a 50% interest in MFC. (*Id.* ¶ 23.)

9 Sometime after the Operating Agreement was executed, Plaintiff’s relationship with Moyes  
10 Trust began to deteriorate. (Pl.’s Comp. ¶ 18–22.) Plaintiff alleges that in March 2008, Moyes Trust  
11 “made it clear to [Plaintiff] that it would no longer be [its] partner and that it desired to purchase  
12 [Plaintiff’s] interest in MFC.” (*Id.* ¶ 23.) Plaintiff claims it then engaged in negotiations and reached an  
13 agreement (the “Buy-Out Agreement”) that Moyes Trust would purchase Plaintiff’s 50% interest. (*Id.* ¶  
14 28.) After the alleged Buy-Out Agreement, Plaintiff claims that Moyes Trust and entities under its  
15 control, including Deer Valley and Carefree, seized control of MFC and its assets in a manner at odds  
16 with the fiduciary and contractual duties owed to Plaintiff under the Operating Agreement. (*Id.* ¶ 7.)  
17 Plaintiff also alleges that Moyes Trust unlawfully conspired with Deer Valley and Carefree to commit  
18 other unlawful  
19 acts. (*Id.* ¶ 8.)

### 20 Legal Standard

#### 21 ***1. Leave to Amend Under Rule 15 of the Federal Rules***

22 Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 15(a)(2), the court should freely give leave to amend  
23 when justice requires. *See Foman v. Davis*, 371 U.S. 178, 182, 83 S. Ct. 227, 9 L. Ed.2d 222 (1962).  
24 This policy should “ ‘be applied with extreme liberality.’ ” *Owens v. Kaiser Foundation Health Plan,*  
25 *Inc.*, 244 F.3d 708, 712 (9th Cir.2001), quoting *Morongo Band of Mission Indians v. Rose*, 893 F.2d  
26 1074, 1079 (9th Cir.1990). “If the underlying facts or circumstances relied upon by a plaintiff may be a  
27 proper subject of relief, he ought to be afforded an opportunity to test his claims on the merits. In the  
28 absence of apparent or declared reason—such as undue delay, bad faith or dilatory motive on the part of

1 the movant, repeated failure to cure deficiencies by amendment previously allowed, undue prejudice to  
2 the opposing party by virtue of allowance of the amendment, futility of amendment, etc.-the leave  
3 sought should, as the rules require, be 'freely given.' ” *Foman*, 371 U.S. at 182. A court must be guided  
4 by the purpose of Rule 15, which is facilitating decisions on their merits. *United States v. Webb*, 655  
5 F.2d 977, 979 (9th Cir.1981).

6 “[A] district court may deny leave to amend where there is any apparent or declared reason for  
7 doing so, including undue delay, undue prejudice to the opposing party or futility of the amendment.”  
8 *Lockman Foundation v. Evangelical Alliance Mission*, 930 F.2d 764, 772 (9th Cir.1991), quoting  
9 *Foman*, 371 U.S. at 182 ( internal quotation marks omitted ). “Not all of the factors merit equal  
10 consideration,” however, “it is the consideration of prejudice to the opposing party that carries the  
11 greatest weight.” *Eminence Capital, LLC v. Aspeon, Inc.*, 316 F.3d 1048, 1052 (9th Cir.2003). Leave to  
12 amend is within the trial court's discretion. *Swanson v. U.S. Forest Service*, 87 F.3d 339, 343 (9th  
13 Cir.1996); *United States v. County of San Diego*, 53 F.3d 965, 969 n. 6 (9th Cir.); *cert. denied*, 516 U.S.  
14 867, 116 S.Ct. 183, 133 L.Ed.2d 121 (1995).

15 “[C]ontrolling the pace and scope of discovery, being a matter of case management rather than  
16 of the application of hard and fast rules, is also within the district judge's discretion.” *Cowen v. Bank*  
17 *United of Texas, FSB*, 70 F.3d 937, 944 (7th Cir.1995). When a motion to amend is made after the  
18 discovery period has closed, granting the amendment may require the court to re-open discovery. *Id.* In  
19 such cases, the nature of the requested amendment may rightly demand more or less judicial indulgence.  
20 *Id.* “A need to reopen discovery and therefore delay the proceedings supports a district court's finding of  
21 prejudice from a delayed motion to amend the complaint.” *Lockheed Martin Corp. v. Network Solutions,*  
22 *Inc.*, 194 F.3d 980, 986 (9th Cir.1999) ( citation omitted ).

23 Rule 15 imposes no time limit for amendment of pleadings. In the Ninth Circuit, a district court  
24 may not deny a motion for leave to amend solely based on the moving party's delay. *Hurn v. Retirement*  
25 *Fund Trust*, 648 F.2d 1252, 1254 (9th Cir.1981). Denial requires a demonstration of “prejudice to the  
26 opposing party, bad faith by the moving party, or futility of amendment.” *Bowles v. Reade*, 198 F.3d  
27 752, 758 (9th Cir.1999). Nonetheless, delay remains a relevant consideration to be weighed in the  
28 determination of whether to grant a motion to amend. *Loehr v. Ventura County Community College*

1 *District*, 743 F.2d 1310, 1320 (9th Cir.1984). “[L]ate amendments to assert new theories are not  
2 reviewed favorably when the facts and the theory have been known to the party seeking amendment  
3 since the inception of the cause of action.” *Acri v. International Association of Machinists & Aerospace*  
4 *Workers*, 781 F.2d 1393, 1398 (9th Cir.), *cert. denied*, 479 U.S. 816, 479 U.S. 821 (1986).  
5 If the proposed amendment is insufficient in law and would be a futile act, it is proper to deny leave to  
6 amend. *Baker v. Pacific Far East Lines, Inc.*, 451 F. Supp. 84, 89 (N.D. Cal.1978). “A motion for leave  
7 to amend may be denied if it appears to be futile or legally insufficient.” *Miller v. Rykoff-Sexton, Inc.*,  
8 845 F.2d 209, 214 (9th Cir.1988). Futility alone can justify denial of a motion for leave to amend. *Nunes*  
9 *v. Ashcroft*, 375 F.3d 810, 813 (9th Cir.2004), *cert. denied*, 543 U.S. 1188, 125 S.Ct. 1395, 161 L.Ed.2d  
10 192 (2005). *See also Gabrielson v. Montgomery Ward & Co.*, 785 F.2d 762, 766 (9th Cir.1986) (opining  
11 that a motion to amend should not be granted when the amendment could be defeated on summary  
12 judgment).

## 13 **2 Sufficiency of Pleadings Under Rules 8 and 9 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure**

14 “Rule 8(a)’s simplified pleading standard applies to all civil actions, with limited exceptions,”  
15 none of which applies to this action. *Swierkiewicz v. Sorema N. A.*, 534 U.S. 506, 512, 122 S.Ct. 992,  
16 152 L.Ed.2d 1 (2002). A complaint must contain “a short and plain statement of the claim showing that  
17 the pleader is entitled to relief ....“ Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a). “Such a statement must simply give the  
18 defendant fair notice of what the plaintiff’s claim is and the grounds upon which it rests.” *Swierkiewicz*,  
19 534 U.S. at 512. Detailed factual allegations are not required, but “[t]hreadbare recitals of the elements  
20 of the cause of action, supported by mere conclusory statements, do not suffice.”<sup>2</sup>

21 Although accepted as true, “[f]actual allegations must be [sufficient] to raise a right to relief  
22 above the speculative level.” *Twombly*, 550 U.S. at 555 ( citations omitted ). A claimant must set forth  
23 “the grounds of his entitlement to relief,” which “requires more than labels and conclusions, and a  
24 formulaic recitation of the elements of a cause of action.” *Id.* at 555-56 ( internal quotation marks and  
25 citations omitted ). To adequately state a claim, a party must set forth the legal and factual basis of its

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27 <sup>2</sup> *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, --- U.S. ----, 129 S.Ct. 1937, 1949, 173 L.Ed.2d 868 (2009), *citing Bell*  
28 *Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 555, 127 S.Ct. 1955, 167 L.Ed.2d 929 (2007). *See also*  
*Semegen v. Weidner*, 780 F.2d 727, 731 (9th Cir.1985); *In re Worlds of Wonder Securities Litigation*,  
694 F.Supp. 1427, 1433 (N.D.Cal.1988); *Hokama v. E.F.Hutton & Co., Inc.*, 566 F.Supp. 636, 645-46  
(C.D.Cal.1983).

1 claim. A claimant must set forth sufficient factual matter accepted as true, to ‘state a claim that is  
2 plausible on its face.’ ” *Iqbal*, 129 S.Ct. at 1949, quoting *Twombly*, 550 U.S. at 555. While factual  
3 allegations are accepted as true, legal conclusions are not. *Iqbal*, 129 S.Ct. at 1949.

4 In addition, when “alleging fraud or mistake, a party must state with particularity the  
5 circumstances constituting fraud or mistake.” F.R.Civ.P. 9(b). In the Ninth Circuit, the rule is interpreted  
6 to require the party to plead “the time, place, and specific content of the false representations as well as  
7 the identities of the parties to the misrepresentation.” *Schreiber Distributing Co. v. Serv-Well Furniture*  
8 *Co., Inc.*, 806 F.2d 1393, 1400-01 (9th Cir.1986). “[M]ere recitation of the content of the alleged  
9 misrepresentations and the context in which they were made is [not] sufficient to satisfy Rule 9(b).”  
10 *Comwest, Inc. v. American Operator Services, Inc.*, 765 F.Supp. 1467, 1470-71 (C.D.Cal.1991). The  
11 pleading party must identify the allegedly fraudulent circumstances that sufficiently to allow the  
12 responding party to prepare an adequate answer. *Walling v. Beverly Enterprises*, 476 F.2d 393, 397 (9th  
13 Cir.1973). The allegations must set forth the time, date, and specific content or nature of the fraudulent  
14 representations or omissions. *Miscellaneous Service Workers, Drivers & Helpers, Teamsters Local #*  
15 *427 v. Philco-Ford Corp., WDL Division*, 661 F.2d 776, 782 (9th Cir.1981).

### 16 Discussion

17 The Plaintiff moves the Court for leave to: 1) amend the complaint to add a Ninth Cause of  
18 Action for Fraud and a Tenth Cause of Action for Constructive Fraud based upon information it  
19 contends was recently discovered; and 2) to conform the pleadings to remove former parties, Deer  
20 Valley Capital, LLC and Carefree Capital Investments, LLC, who were previously dismissed from the  
21 case. The Defendant opposes the motion to amend on the grounds that the amendment is untimely,  
22 prejudicial, would cause undue delay and is futile. The Defendant also argues that the Plaintiff has  
23 failed to plead fraud with the requisite particularity required by Rule 9(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil  
24 Procedure.

#### 25 ***1. Whether the Amendment is Untimely***

26 The Defendants argue that Plaintiff’s motion to amend is untimely because the deadline to  
27 amend pleadings set by this Court pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(b) was June 14, 2010.  
28 [Doc. Nos. 40 and 41.] While the amendment is untimely in light of the schedule set by the Court in this

1 case, the Court finds: 1) that there is no bad faith or intentional delay on behalf of the Plaintiff; and 2)  
2 that the Plaintiff has demonstrated good cause pursuant to Rule 16(b)(4) to modify the schedule because  
3 the Plaintiff moved for leave to amend within two weeks of discovering the previously undisclosed  
4 information that forms the basis of the new claims. Furthermore, as set forth above, Rule 15 imposes no  
5 time limit for amendment of pleadings and the Ninth Circuit has held that a district court may not deny a  
6 motion for leave to amend solely based on the moving party's delay. *Hurn v. Retirement Fund Trust*, 648  
7 F.2d 1252, 1254 (9th Cir.1981). Denial requires a demonstration of “prejudice to the opposing party,  
8 bad faith by the moving party, or futility of amendment.” *Bowles v. Reade*, 198 F.3d 752, 758 (9th  
9 Cir.1999). **2. *Whether the Amendment is Prejudicial***

10 The Defendant claims that the amendment is prejudicial because discovery closed on March 25,  
11 2011 and the deadline for filing dispositive motions in this case is April 15, 2011. The Defendant  
12 contends that it would be significantly prejudiced if it were not permitted discovery or provided an  
13 opportunity to move for summary judgment on the Plaintiff’s new claims. Defendant also contends that  
14 being required to conduct the additional discovery on Plaintiff’s new claims without the opportunity to  
15 file Rule 12 or other challenges to these claims is entirely prejudicial.

16 The Plaintiff argues that the amendment would not prejudice the Defendant because none of the  
17 underlying facts in the case have changed, the Defendant had not deposed any of the Plaintiff’s  
18 witnesses and had two weeks left before the discovery cut-off as of the filing date of this motion. The  
19 Plaintiff further argues that the Defendant was aware as early as the Mr. Shumway’s deposition on  
20 March 11, 2008, that the Plaintiff was seeking to discover the facts related to the two new fraud claims.  
21 *See Opp.* at p. 13, n.9. While the Defendant may suffer some inconvenience as a result of the Plaintiff’s  
22 amended complaint, it is in part the Defendant’s failure to timely disclose the information within the  
23 Defendant’s custody and control that is the cause. As such, the Court does not find Plaintiff’s proposed  
24 amendment to be unduly prejudicial.

25 **3. *Whether the Amendment Would Cause Undue Delay***

26 The Defendant argues that undue delay would undoubtedly result if the Court were to extend the  
27 discovery deadline to provide Defendant with an opportunity to conduct additional discovery. As set  
28 forth above, the underlying facts have not changed. While the two new causes of action would

1 necessitate reopening discovery,<sup>3</sup> the Court does not believe the additional time needed to complete such  
2 discovery would be extensive. Furthermore, the recent transfer of this case from Judge Huff to Judge  
3 Battaglia necessitates adjustments to the current schedule and rescheduling of current dates on Judge  
4 Battaglia's calendar and some delay in the schedule is unavoidable in light of this.

5 **4. Whether the Amendment is Futile**

6 The Defendant claims that Plaintiff's proposed amendment is futile because the Plaintiff will be  
7 unable to prove facts under the amended complaint that would entitle the Plaintiff to relief. The  
8 Defendants argue that the Plaintiff cannot demonstrate reliance, damages or the existence of a fiduciary  
9 relationship. The Court, however, finds these arguments unpersuasive. A motion for leave to amend  
10 may be denied if it appears to be futile or legally insufficient. A proposed amendment is only futile if no  
11 set of facts can be proved under the amendment to the pleadings that would constitute a valid and  
12 sufficient claim or defense. *Miller v. Rykoff-Sexton, Inc.*, 845 F.2d 209, 214 (9th Cir.1988); *see also*,  
13 *Kendall v. Visa U.S.A., Inc.*, 518 F.3d 1042, 1051 (9th Cir.2008). It cannot be concluded at this juncture  
14 that the proposed amendment is futile as a matter of law.

15 **5. Whether the Plaintiff has Pled Fraud with Requisite Particularity Required by Rule 9(b)**

16 The Ninth Circuit has interpreted Rule 9(b) to require that "allegations of fraud are specific  
17 enough to give defendants notice of the particular misconduct which is alleged to constitute the fraud  
18 charged so that they can defend against the charge and not just deny that they have done anything  
19 wrong." *Semegen v. Weidner*, 780 F.2d 727, 731 (9th Cir. 1985). However, "[m]alice, intent,  
20 knowledge, and other conditions of mind . . . may be averred generally." Fed.R.Civ.P. 9(b). A pleading  
21 "is sufficient under Rule 9(b) if it identifies 'the circumstances constituting fraud so that the defendant  
22 can prepare an adequate answer from the allegations.'" *Gottreich v. San Francisco Investment Corp.*,  
23 552 F.2d 866, 866 (9th Cir.1977); *see Deutsch v. Flannery*, 823 F.2d 1361, 1365-66 (9th Cir.1987). The  
24 complaint must specify such facts as the times, dates, places, the specific content of the false  
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28 <sup>3</sup> *See Sanford v. MemberWorks, Inc.*, 625 F.3d 550, 558 (9th Cir. 2010); *United States ex rel. Lee v. SmithKline Beecham, Inc.*, 245 F.3d 1048, 1052 (9th Cir.2001).



1 representations as well as the identities of the parties to the misrepresentation.<sup>4</sup> “[M]ere recitation of the  
2 content of the alleged misrepresentations and the context in which they were made is [not] sufficient to  
3 satisfy Rule 9(b).” *Comwest, Inc. v. American Operator Services, Inc.*, 765 F.Supp. 1467, 1470-71  
4 (C.D.Cal.1991).

5 The Court has reviewed the Ninth and Tenth Causes of Action from the proposed FAC and finds  
6 that despite Defendant’s arguments to the contrary, the Plaintiff’s have plead these causes of action for  
7 fraud with the requisite particularity required by Rule 9(b). Rule 9(b)'s particularity requirement  
8 mandates only that the circumstances constituting fraud be identified to the extent that the defendants  
9 will find sufficient information in the allegations to be able to prepare an adequate answer. *Riley v.*  
10 *Brazeau*, 612 F.Supp. 674, 678 (D.Ore.1985); *Hokama v. E.F. Hutton & Co., Inc.*, 566 F.Supp. 636, 645  
11 (C.D.Cal.1983). The purpose of the rule is to thwart charges of fraud from arising out of contractual  
12 relations that merely didn't work out like the parties had anticipated. *Arroyo v. Wheat*, 591 F.Supp. 136,  
13 139 (D.Nev.1984). Rule 9(b) should not be used as a tool to require a plaintiff to repeatedly redraft the  
14 complaint where the defendants do, in fact, have notice of the alleged conduct. *In re Commonwealth*  
15 *Oil/Tesoro Petroleum Corp. Securities Litigation*, 467 F.Supp. 227, 251 (D.C. Tex. 1979). Justice is  
16 better served by reaching the merits. *Michael v. Clark Equipment Co.*, 380 F.2d 351, 352 (2nd  
17 Cir.1967).

18 Having independently examined the Rule 15 factors, the Court concludes that they weigh in  
19 favor of granting leave to amend because the proposed amendment does not change the nature of the  
20 case, it was not brought in bad faith and Defendant’s failure to timely disclose the information within  
21 their custody and control is the predominant cause of the delay.

### 22 Conclusion

23 For the reasons set forth above, the Plaintiff’s motion to amend is hereby GRANTED. Plaintiffs  
24 shall file the FAC on or before April 25, 2011. In as much as the Court has GRANTED Plaintiff leave  
25 to amend, the Defendants’ Motions for Partial Summary Judgment, [Doc. Nos. 127, 128, 129, 130, 131,  
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27 <sup>4</sup> *Semegen*, 780 F.2d at 731; *Gottreich*, 552 F.2d at 867; *Kearns v. Ford Motor Co.*, 567 F.3d  
28 1120, 1124 (9th Cir. 2009); *Schreiber Distributing Co. v. Serv-Well Furniture Co., Inc.*, 806 F.2d 1393,  
1400-01 (9th Cir.1986); *Miscellaneous Service Workers, Drivers & Helpers, Teamsters Local # 427 v.*  
*Philco-Ford Corp., WDL Division*, 661 F.2d 776, 782 (9th Cir.1981).

1 132, 133 and 134] are hereby DENIED AS MOOT. The Court notes that the Defendants failed to  
2 timely file one of these motions and failed to seek leave of Court to exceed the 25 page limit in general.  
3 Defendants are hereby warned that any further failure to comply with the rules of this Court will result  
4 in filings being rejected or stricken and that sanctions may be imposed.

5 Based upon the foregoing, the Plaintiff's Ex Parte Motion to Strike, [Doc. No. 142], is hereby  
6 DENIED AS MOOT. The parties are ORDERED to jointly contact Judge Skomal's chambers *on or*  
7 *before April 29, 2011* to schedule a Case Management Conference to discuss the reopening of discovery  
8 with regard to two new claims *only* and to reset remaining dates. Given the number of dispositive  
9 motions anticipated, the briefing will be set as follows: the motion filing cut-off will be 60 days before  
10 the scheduled hearing date, responses will be due 40 days prior to the hearing date and replies will be  
11 due 30 days before the hearing date. The parties must contact the clerk prior to the motion filing cut-off  
12 to obtain a hearing date.

13 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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15 DATED: April 21, 2011

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18 Hon. Anthony J. Battaglia  
19 U.S. District Judge  
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