

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLORADO

Civil Action No. 09-cv-01027-REB-KLM

HOME DESIGN SERVICES, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

RUCKMAN, INC.,
TERRY M. RUCKMAN,
JAMES DEE WHITELEY, and
ANNIE M. WHITELEY,

Defendant(s).

ORDER SETTING
SCHEDULING/PLANNING CONFERENCE

The above captioned case has been referred to Magistrate Judge Kristen L. Mix pursuant to the Order of Reference entered by District Judge Robert E. Blackburn on May 5, 2009.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that a Scheduling/Planning Conference pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 16(b) shall be held on **July 8, 2009**, commencing at **9:30 a.m.** in Courtroom C-204, Second Floor, Byron G. Rogers United States Courthouse, 1929 Stout Street, Denver, Colorado. If this date is not convenient for any counsel/pro se party, he/she shall **file a motion** to reschedule the conference to a more convenient date, and shall list dates in the motion which are available for **all** counsel/pro se parties. Counsel and the parties must notify Chambers (303-335-2770) at least **three (3) business days in advance** of any hearing requiring presentation of documentary evidence, so that the courtroom can be equipped with the appropriate electronic technology.

Absent exceptional circumstances, no request for rescheduling any appearance in this court will be considered unless a motion is made FIVE (5) business days in advance of the date of appearance.

The plaintiff shall notify all parties who have not entered an appearance of the date and time of the Scheduling/Planning Conference.

IT IS ORDERED that counsel/pro se parties in this case are to hold a pre-scheduling conference meeting and **prepare a proposed Scheduling Order** in accordance with Fed. R.Civ. P. 26(f), as amended, and the instructions accompanying the form scheduling order on or before 21 days before the scheduling conference. Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(d), as amended, no discovery is to be exchanged until after the Rule 26(f) conference meeting. **The parties shall include the following language in paragraph 8(h)(5) of their proposed Scheduling Order:**

"Other Planning or Discovery Orders: No opposed discovery motions are to be filed with the Court until the parties comply with D.C.COLO.LCivR. 7.1(A). If the parties are unable to reach agreement on a discovery issue after conferring, they shall arrange a conference call with Magistrate Judge Mix to attempt to resolve the issue. Both of these steps must be completed before any contested discovery motions are filed with the Court."

No later than **five (5) calendar days** prior to the Scheduling/Planning Conference, counsel/pro se parties shall submit their proposed Scheduling Order in the format available on the Court's website at: www.cod.uscourts.gov under magistrate judges forms (**in PDF**) in compliance with the Court's Electronic Case Filing Procedures which are also available on the Court's website. An additional copy of the proposed scheduling order is to be provided to my chambers at Mix_Chambers@cod.uscourts.gov by **e-mail attachment** with the subject line stating "proposed Scheduling Order" and in **WordPerfect format**.

In addition to the instructions for completing the Scheduling Order, which may be found on the court's website with the scheduling order form, counsel and pro se parties should consider whether electronic discovery will be needed. Specifically, in those cases in which: (I) the parties' substantive allegations involve extensive computer-generated records; (ii) a substantial amount of disclosure or discovery will involve information or records in electronic form (i.e., e-mail, word processing, databases); (iii) expert witnesses will develop testimony based in large part on computer data and/or modeling; or (iv) any party plans to present a substantial amount of evidence in digital form at trial, the parties shall confer regarding what efforts will be needed to preserve computer records and data, facilitate computer-based discovery and who will pay costs, resolve privilege issues, limit discovery costs and delay, and avoid discovery disputes relating to electronic discovery. The parties shall include these issues, if appropriate, in the proposed scheduling order and shall be prepared to discuss them at the scheduling/planning conference.

Further, on or before 14 days after the Rule 26(f) pre-scheduling conference meeting, the parties shall comply with the mandatory disclosure requirements of Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(a)(1), as amended.

Parties who are pro se or do not have access to the internet may obtain the scheduling order form and instructions from the Clerk's Office, Room A105, in the Alfred A. Arraj United States Courthouse, 901 19th Street, Denver, Colorado, 80294. Scheduling Orders prepared by parties not represented by counsel, or without access to electronic case filing, are to be submitted to the Clerk of the Court on paper.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that at least **five (5) calendar days** before the Scheduling/Planning Conference, counsel/pro se parties shall submit a brief Confidential Settlement Statement to the Magistrate Judge **ONLY**, outlining the facts and issues involved in the case, and the possibilities for settlement, including any settlement authority from the client. Electronic case filing participants are to submit their Confidential Settlement statements to chambers at Mix_Chambers@cod.uscourts.gov, with the subject line stating "Confidential Settlement Statement" along with the case number and case caption. The Confidential Settlement statement should be submitted **in PDF** format and sent as an attachment to the e-mail. Documents with attachments totaling over 15 pages shall be submitted **to the Clerk's office** in an envelope labeled "Personal

Materials" addressed to Magistrate Judge Kristen L. Mix.¹ Counsel/pro se parties should be prepared to discuss settlement at the Scheduling/Planning Conference.

All out-of-state counsel shall comply with D.C.COLO.LCivR 83.3 before the Scheduling/Planning Conference.

It is the responsibility of counsel/pro se parties to notify the Court of his/her entry of appearance, notice of withdrawal, notice of substitution of counsel, or notice of change of address, e-mail address, or telephone number by complying with the Court's Electronic Case Filing Procedures or paper-filing the appropriate document with the Court.

The Parties are further advised that they shall not assume that the Court will grant the relief requested in any motion. Failure to appear at a court-ordered conference or to comply with a court-ordered deadline which has not been vacated by court order may result in the imposition of sanctions, under Rule 16(f), Fed.R.Civ.P.

Anyone seeking entry to the Byron G. Rogers United States Courthouse will be required to show valid photo identification. See D.C.COLO.LCIVR. 83.2B. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in denial of entry to the courthouse.

DATED: May 6, 2009 at Denver, Colorado.

BY THE COURT:

s/ Kristen L. Mix
Kristen L. Mix
United States Magistrate Judge

¹ Do not label this envelope "confidential settlement statement" because you will risk the public filing of the document.