

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLORADO

Civil Action No. 14-cv-02787-KLM

LAURAL O'DOWD, for herself and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

ANTHEM HEALTH PLANS, INC., doing business as Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield,
ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL SERVICE, INC., doing business as
Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, and
WELLPOINT, INC.,

Defendants.

**ORDER SETTING
SCHEDULING/PLANNING CONFERENCE**
(as amended effective August 7, 2014)

The above captioned case has been assigned to Magistrate Judge Kristen L. Mix pursuant to the Pilot Project to Implement the Direct Assignment of Civil Cases to Full Time Magistrate Judges. See [#8]. The parties are reminded that they "must complete and file the Consent Form at the earlier of (1) not more than ten days after the scheduling conference; or (2) not more than forty-five days after the filing of the first response, other than an answer, to the operative complaint. **Filing of the Consent Form is mandatory**, indicating either the unanimous consent of the parties or that consent has been declined." *Id.* at 3 (emphasis added).

A. Date of Scheduling Conference

IT IS HEREBY **ORDERED** that a Scheduling/Planning Conference pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b) shall be held on **December 11, 2014**, commencing at **11:00 a.m.** in Courtroom C-204, Second Floor, Byron G. Rogers United States Courthouse, 1929 Stout Street, Denver, Colorado.

B. How to Request Different Date for Scheduling Conference

If this date is not convenient for any counsel or *pro se* party, he or 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 and *pro se* parties. 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.

C. How to Request Appearance By Telephone at Scheduling Conference

If you wish to appear at the Scheduling Conference by telephone, you must file a motion seeking permission to appear by telephone and setting forth good cause for a telephonic appearance. No motion for any telephonic appearance will be granted unless it is filed at least **five (5) business days** in advance of the date of appearance.

D. Plaintiff's Duty to Notify Parties of Scheduling Conference

The plaintiff shall notify all parties who have not entered an appearance as of the date of this Order of the date and time of the Scheduling/Planning Conference set forth above.

E. Parties' Obligations Before Scheduling Conference

1. Scheduling Order

IT IS **ORDERED** that counsel and *pro se* parties in this case are to hold a pre-scheduling conference meeting pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)(1) at least twenty-one (21) days before the proposed scheduling order is due to be tendered and prepare a proposed Scheduling Order in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f), as amended. The instructions for completing the Scheduling Order may be found on the Court's website (www.cod.uscourts.gov) with the scheduling order forms. **Please be aware that effective December 1, 2011, there are TWO forms of Scheduling Order available on the Court's website under the "Local Rules" tab: one form for non-administrative review cases and one form for ERISA cases. PLEASE USE THE CURRENT and CORRECT FORM FOR YOUR CASE.**

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 Section 8, Paragraph (d) of their proposed Scheduling Order in *non-administrative review* cases:

"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. 7.1A. If the parties are unable to reach agreement on a discovery issue after conferring, they shall arrange a telephone hearing with Magistrate Judge Mix regarding the issue. Both of these steps must be completed before any contested discovery motions are filed with the Court."

No later than **seven (7) calendar days** prior to the Scheduling/Planning Conference, counsel and *pro se* parties shall submit their proposed Scheduling Order 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."

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.

2. Mandatory Disclosures

IT IS **FURTHER ORDERED** that 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.

F. Miscellaneous

All counsel shall comply with D.C.COLO.LAttyR 1 through 14 before the Scheduling/Planning Conference.

It is the responsibility of all counsel and pro se parties to notify the Court of his or her entry of appearance, withdrawal of appearance, substitution of counsel, or 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 Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(f).

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

DATED: October 15, 2014 at Denver, Colorado. BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristen L. Mix".

Kristen L. Mix
United States Magistrate Judge