

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

No. 13-367 C

(Filed January 2, 2014)

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EUGENE BLEDSOE, \*

\*

Plaintiff, \*

\*

v. \*

\*

THE UNITED STATES, \*

\*

Defendant. \*

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PRELIMINARY SCHEDULING ORDER

On December 30, 2013, pursuant to Appendix A, ¶ 4 of the Rules of the United States Court of Federal Claims (RCFC) the parties filed their joint preliminary status report (JPSR). Therein, the parties reported that they anticipate that this case may go forward to litigation. In that regard, counsel for the respective parties request that the parties be permitted to engage in discovery and determine if filing a dispositive motion is appropriate in lieu of or in addition to trial.

Upon an examination of the pleadings and the JPSR, pursuant to RCFC 16(b), it is **ORDERED** that the following preliminary schedule is established:

(1) **Initial Disclosures**, pursuant to RCFC 26(a), shall be exchanged between the parties on or before **February 28, 2014**.

(2) All **fact discovery**, including production of documents, depositions, interrogatories and requests for admissions shall be **COMPLETED**

on or before **June 30, 2014**.<sup>1</sup>

(3) On **July 14, 2014**, or two weeks after completion of discovery whichever occurs earlier, counsel are directed to **FILE a Joint Status Report** setting forth a proposed schedule for the exchanges required by Appendix A, ¶ 13 and the filings required by ¶¶ 14 through 17. In addition, the status report shall specifically address the following:

- (a) whether trial of liability and damages should be bifurcated;
- (b) the parties' preferred location of trial; and
- (c) the anticipated length of trial.

In the event that any dispositive motions are to be filed, the status report shall state a proposed date for such motions.

/s/Lynn J. Bush

LYNN J. BUSH

Senior Judge

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<sup>1/</sup> The parties' JPSR indicates that they do not anticipate the need for expert discovery. In the event that this changes and expert discovery is required, the parties shall inform the court within seven days of the close of fact discovery, to and including June 30, 2014, and propose a schedule for expert discovery.