## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

CHAMBERS OF J. FREDERICK MOTZ UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE 101 WEST LOMBARD STREET BALTIMORE, MAR YLAND 21201 (410) 962-0782 (410) 962-2698 FAX

July 14, 2017

MEMO TO COUNSEL RE: United Seating & Mobility v. Martin Elliott, et al. Civil No. JFM-17-1055

Dear Counsel:

I have reviewed the memoranda submitted in connection with defendants' motion to dismiss (document 7). The motion is denied. I agree with plaintiff that the parties to a contract cannot displace through a choice of law provision the application of a federal statute in its mandate for subject matter jurisdiction in federal court.

A conference call will be held on <u>July 27, 2017</u> at <u>4:30</u> p.m. to discuss the appropriate schedule in this case. I ask counsel for plaintiff to initiate the call.

Enclosed is a tentative scheduling order with approximate dates for your information. Please consult with one another before the call and be prepared to discuss whether you would like to participate in a settlement conference either before or after the completion of discovery, any changes to the dates in the form scheduling order, and whether there is unanimous consent to proceed before a U.S. Magistrate Judge for all proceedings.

Also enclosed is a letter regarding a call-in hour program for the resolution of discovery disagreements.

Despite the informal nature of this letter, it should be flagged as an opinion and docketed as an order.

Very truly yours,

J. Frederick Motz

United States District Judge