

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND**

ROGER W. TITUS
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

6500 CHERRYWOOD LANE
GREENBELT, MARYLAND 20770
301-344-0052

MEMORANDUM

TO: Counsel of Record

FROM: Judge Roger W. Titus

RE: Notice of Telephone Status Conference
JFJ Toys, Inc. d/b/a D&L Company, et al. v. Five Below, Inc., et al.
Civil Action No. RWT 10-19

DATE: March 17, 2010

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I have today issued the Court's standard form of Scheduling Order, and am scheduling a brief telephone status conference with counsel on ***March 25, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. Counsel for the Plaintiff shall be responsible for initiating the call.***

There are several reasons for scheduling a telephone status conference in connection with the issuance of the Scheduling Order. First, I want to be certain that counsel consider quite carefully the availability of early mediation services by a Magistrate Judge of this Court, and the desirability of consent to all further proceedings by a Magistrate Judge. These are options that should be carefully considered, and I urge all parties to do so.

Second, the issuance of the Scheduling Order authorizes the initiation of discovery, and I want to be certain that all counsel are aware of the obligations imposed upon them as part of the discovery process. I urge all counsel to review carefully before the status conference the recent decision of Chief Magistrate Judge Paul Grimm in the case of *Mancia, et al. v. Mayflower Textile Serv. Co., et al.*, No. 08-cv-00273-CCB, __F.R.D.__, 2008 W.L. 459175 (D. Md. Oct. 15, 2008). The following is a link to the decision for your convenience:

http://www.mdd.uscourts.gov/Opinions/Opinions/Mancia%20v.%20Mayflower_Opinion_10.15.08.pdf.

If counsel read this decision and apply the rules in accordance with that decision, it is quite likely that the level of discovery disputes, if any, will be reduced appreciably.

