

**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: *Kimberly P. Gordon, Individually and on behalf of the Estate of Steven H. Gordon, and on behalf of all others similarly situated v. UCG Holdings, LP and Oil Price Information Services, LLC*
Civil No. RWT 16-238

DATE: August 9, 2016

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I have today issued the Court's standard form of Scheduling Order.

As discussed at the hearing on July 28, 2016, 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.

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 the decision of then Chief Magistrate Judge (now United States District Judge) Paul Grimm in the case of *Mancia v. Mayflower Textile Services Co.*, 253 F.R.D. 354 (D. Md. 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.

The parties should confer with each other on the nature and extent of discovery that may be required in this case, with a view towards minimizing wasteful and unnecessary discovery. Any concerns regarding the dates set forth in the Scheduling Order or the scope of discovery should be raised by counsel respectively in the status report or a motion.

