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Cuyler v. C R Bard Incorporated et al

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negligent misrepresentation and negligence per se), two breach of warranty counts (express and implied), two counts sounding in fraud (fraudulent misrepresentation and fraudulent concealment), and an unfair and deceptive trade practices count.

- 3. Defendants deny the allegations contained in the Complaint.
- 4. After four years, the completion of general issue discovery, and the conduct of three bellwether trials, Judge Campbell ordered that cases, which have not settled or are not close to settling, be transferred or remanded to the appropriate jurisdictions around the country for casespecific discovery and trial. As a part of that process, he established a "track" system, wherein certain cases were placed on tracks either to finalize settlement paperwork, continue settlement negotiations, or be remanded or transferred.
- 5. This case was transferred to this Court on August 10, 2020 because at the time it was not close to settling. But, since that date, the Parties have engaged in further settlement discussions and have reached a settlement in principle. The Parties believe that a stay is necessary to conserve their resources and attention so that they may finalize settlement documents.
- 6. Accordingly, the Parties request that this Court issue an order staying discovery and pretrial deadlines until April 12, 2021 to allow the Parties time to finalize settlement This will prevent unnecessary expenditures of the Parties and conserve judicial documents. resources.
- A district court has broad discretion over pretrial discovery rulings. Crawford-El v. 7. Britton, 523 U.S. 574, 598 (1998); accord, Republic of Ecuador v. Hinchee, 741 F.3d 1185, 1188-89 (11th Cir. 2013); Thermal Design, Inc. v. Am. Soc'y of Heating, Refrigerating & Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc., 755 F.3d 832, 837 (7th Cir. 2014); see also, Cook v. Kartridg Pak Co., 840 F.2d 602, 604 (8th Cir. 1988) ("A district court must be free to use and control pretrial procedure in furtherance of the orderly administration of justice.").
- 8. Under Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 26(c) and 26(d), a court may limit the scope of discovery or control its sequence. Britton, 523 U.S. at 598. Although settlement negotiations do not automatically excuse a party from its discovery obligations, the parties can seek a stay prior to the cutoff date. Sofo v. Pan-American Life Ins. Co., 13 F.3d 239, 242 (7th Cir. 1994); see also, Wichita

Falls Office Assocs. v. Banc One Corp., 978 F.2d 915, 918 (5th Cir. 1993) (finding that a "trial

judge's decision to curtail discovery is granted great deference," and noting that the discovery had

stay. In Coker v. Dowd, 2:13-cv-0994-JCM-NJK, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 201845, at *2-3 (D. Nev.

July 8, 2013), the parties requested a 60-day stay to facilitate ongoing settlement negotiations and

permit them to mediate global settlement. The Court granted the stay, finding the parties would be

prejudiced if required to move forward with discovery at that time and a stay would potentially

prevent an unnecessary complication in the case. Id. at *3. Here, the Parties have reached a

most economical fashion yet allow sufficient time to schedule and complete discovery if necessary,

consistent with the scheduling obligations of counsel. The relief sought in this Stipulation is not

Facilitating the efforts of parties to resolve their disputes weighs in favor of granting a

The Parties agree that the relief sought herein is necessary to handle the case in the

been pushed back a number of times because of pending settlement negotiations).

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settlement in principle.

being requested for delay, but so that justice may be done.

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WHEREFORE, Plaintiff and Defendants respectfully request the Court's approval of this 1 2 stipulation to stay discovery and all pretrial deadlines until April 12, 2021 to allow the Parties to 3 finalize settlement documents. 4 5 IT IS SO STIPULATED. 6 DATED this 9th day of February 2021. 7 8 FEARS NACHAWATI, PLLC GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLC 9 /s/ Steven Schulte /s/ Eric W. Swanis Eric W. Swanis Steven Schulte 10 (Admitted PHV) Nevada Bar No. 6840 11 Texas Bar No. 24051306 Email: swanise@gtlaw.com Email: schulte@fnlawfirm.com 10845 Griffith Peak Drive, Suite 600 12 5473 Blair Road Las Vegas, Nevada 89135 Telephone: (702) 792-3773 Dallas, TX 75231 13 Telephone: (214) 890-0711 Counsel for Defendants Facsimile: (214) 890-0712 14 Counsel for Plaintiff 15 16 **ORDER** 17 18 IT IS ORDERED that the parties' stipulation is GRANTED. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that by April 12, 2021, the parties must file either dismissal documents or a 19 joint status report about the status of settlement 20 IT IS SO ORDERED 21 **DATED:** 12:47 pm, February 16, 2021 22 23 **BRENDA WEKSLER** 24 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE 25 26 27

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