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I.

### **INITIAL MATTERS**

## A. Meeting Between The Parties' Counsel

Pursuant to FRCP 26(f), the undersigned parties, by and through their respective counsel, conferred on June 10, 2021. Paul S. Padda, Esq. represented Plaintiff Holly Marie Wood; Bruce Young, Esq. represented Defendant BTO Investments, Inc.; Karie N. Wilson, Esq. represented Defendants Carl's Jr. Restaurants, LLC, CKE Restaurants Holdings, Inc., CKE Restaurants, Inc., and Carl Karcher Enterprises, Inc. (hereinafter, the "CKE Defendants"); and David T. Gluth II, Esq. represented S.L. Investments. S.L. Investments filed an Answer to Plaintiff's Complaint on March 25, 2021, after the Court entered its original Scheduling Order (ECF No. 30) on February 25, 2021.

## B. The Parties' Position On Alternative Dispute Resolution

The parties hereby certify that they communicated regarding the possibility of resolution of this case through means of alternative dispute resolution (i.e. arbitration, mediation, early neutral evaluation). An Early Neutral Evaluation session was held in this case on March 10, 2021 (ECF No. 36) but was unsuccessful. Mediation was initially set for September 27, 2021, but is in the process of being rescheduled.

# C. The Parties' Position On Trial By United States Magistrate Judge And/Or Short Trial Program

Under FRCP 73, a United States Magistrate Judge may "conduct a civil action or proceedings" if "all parties consent." The parties, by and through their respective counsel, are in agreement that this case should proceed on the normal track with the currently assigned United States District Judge presiding.

II.

#### **DISCOVERY COMPLETED**

The parties have conducted the following discovery to date:

- 1. Plaintiff served her Initial Disclosures on March 3, 2021;
- 2. Defendant BTO Investments, Inc. served its Initial Disclosures on March 5,



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- 3. CKE Defendants served their Initial Disclosures on March 3, 2021;
- 4. Defendant BTO Investments, Inc. propounded its First Set of Interrogatories and First Set of Requests for Production to Plaintiff on March 25, 2021;
  - 5. Plaintiff served her First Supplement to Initial Disclosures on April 26, 2021;
- 6. Plaintiff served her Responses to Defendant BTO Investments, Inc.'s First Set of Interrogatories and First Set of Requests for Production on April 26, 2021;
- 7. Plaintiff propounded her First Set of Interrogatories and First Set of Requests for Production to Defendant BTO Investments, Inc. on April 27, 2021;
- 8. CKE Defendants served their First Supplement to Initial Disclosures on April 30, 2021;
- 9. CKE Defendants propounded their First Set of Interrogatories and First Set of Requests for Production to Plaintiff on June 10, 2021;
  - 10. Defendant S.L. Investments served Initial Disclosures on June 19, 2021;
- 11. Defendant BTO Investments, Inc. served its First Supplement to Initial Disclosures on June 25, 2021;
- 12. Defendant BTO Investments, Inc. served its Responses to Plaintiff's First Set of Interrogatories and First Set of Requests for Production on June 25, 2021;
- 13. Plaintiff served her Responses to the CKE Defendants' First Set of Interrogatories and First Set of Requests for Production on July 12, 2021;
- 14. Plaintiff propounded her Second Set of Interrogatories to Defendant BTO Investments, Inc. on July 28, 2021;
- 15. Plaintiff propounded her First Set of Requests for Production to Defendant S.L. Investments on July 28, 2021;
- 16. Defendant S.L. Investments propounded its First Set of Requests for Admissions to Defendant BTO Investments, Inc. on August 6, 2021; and
- 17. Defendant BTO Investments, Inc. served its Responses to Plaintiff's Second Set of Interrogatories on August 27, 2021.

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LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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#### **AREAS OF DISCOVERY**

The undersigned parties agree that the areas of discovery should include, but not be limited to, all claims and defenses permitted by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, including issues of liability and damages.

IV.

#### DISCOVERY DEADLINES

Local Rule 26-1(b)(1) provides that "unless otherwise ordered, discovery periods longer than one hundred and eighty (180) days from the date the first defendant answers or appears will require special scheduling review." On February 23, 2021, the Court granted the parties' Proposed Discovery Plan and Scheduling Order, approving the parties' request for a 240-day discovery period, as reasonable and necessary, in light of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. (Doc. 30). On June 25, 2021, the Court granted the parties' Amended Plan and Scheduling Order, approving the parties' request that an additional 90 days be added to the discovery period, for a total of 330 days, based on certain extenuating circumstances, including the unsuccessful Early Neutral Evaluation on March 10, 2021 leading to the entry of Defendant S.L. Investments into the suit, the withdrawal of CKE Defendants' former attorneys and the appearance of their current attorneys, the pending service of Defendant Rucey Molina Cruz, written discovery extensions, the continuation of Plaintiff's deposition, the anticipated need for the depositions of additional fact witnesses and Plaintiff's treating physicians, and inadvertent errors in the calculation of the original Order. (Doc. 48).

The parties now propose that an **additional 60 days** be added to the 330-day discovery period, for a total of **390 days**. The parties have been diligently working to complete discovery in accordance with the current deadlines. However, certain factors have necessitated an extension of the current deadlines.

First, the parties have agreed to mediate the case. Mediation was initially set for September 27, 2021, but is in the process of being rescheduled. This extension will

afford the parties additional time to consider opportunities for early settlement without incurring unnecessary discovery costs.

Second, Defendant BTO Investment Inc. has a new handling attorney. Defendant BTO Investments, Inc. is represented by the law firm Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith, LLP. The original handling attorney, Bruce C. Young, Esq., left the firm. The case was internally reassigned to Josh Cole Aicklen and Jesselyn V. De Luna.

Third, Plaintiff has not yet been able to effectuate service of the Summons and Complaint on Defendant Rucey Molina Cruz. Plaintiff therefore sought and was granted additional time to effectuate service. The Court's Order dated May 5, 2021, extended service upon Defendant Rucey Molina Cruz "up to and including 180 days from [the] Order," or until November 1, 2021. (Doc. 44).

Fourth, the parties also anticipate the need for the deposition of additional fact witnesses, including former employees of the restaurant where Plaintiff was previously employed. Some of these witnesses may be difficult to locate as several were teenagers or young adults who stopped working for Defendant BTO in 2018, nearly three years ago. In addition, Plaintiff is seeking emotional distress damages and damages for alleged future medical care and the parties therefore anticipate the need for depositions of Plaintiff's treating physicians including, but not limited to, physicians at UMC Trauma, Dr. Norton Roitman, Dr. Ruth Ramirez, and Dr. Ron Zedek. Coordinating these depositions and accommodating the work and vacation schedules for the witnesses and the attorneys involved is expected to necessitate additional discovery time.

For all these reasons, the parties respectfully request that the applicable discovery deadlines be extended an additional 60 days. Upon a showing of good cause, this Court is authorized to modify the discovery schedule. *See*, FRCP 6(b)(1)(A); LR 26-4. "The district court may modify the pretrial schedule if it cannot reasonably be met despite the diligence of the party seeking the extension." *Johnson v. Mammoth Recreations, Inc.*, 975 F.2d 604, 609 (9th Cir. 1992). Based upon the date the first Defendant answered or otherwise appeared (December 23, 2020) (Doc. 1), the undersigned parties hereby

propose the following discovery schedule pursuant to the LR 26-1 (April 17, 2020):

Current Discovery Plan & Scheduling Order		Proposed Amended Discovery Plan & Scheduling Order
Event	Current Deadline	Proposed Deadline
Discovery Cut-Off	November 18, 2021 (Thursday)	January 17, 2022 (Monday)
		[390 Days from date first defendant answers or appears - LR 26-1 (b)(1)]
Amending Pleadings Adding	August 20, 2021 (Friday)	October 19, 2021 (Tuesday)
Parties		[90 Days Before Close of Discovery - LR 26-1(b)(2)]
Initial Expert Disclosures	September 20, 2021 (Monday)	November 18, 2021 (Thursday)
		[60 Days Before Close of Discovery - LR 26-1(b)(3)]
Rebuttal Expert	October 20, 2021 (Wednesday)	December 20, 2021 (Monday)
Disclosures		[30 days after the Initial Disclosure of Experts - LR 26-1(b)(3) is a Saturday, 12/18/21]
Dispositive Motions	December 20, 2021 (Monday)	February 16, 2022 (Wednesday)
		[30 Days After Close of Discovery - LR 26-1(b)(4)]
Pre-Trial Order	January 19, 2022	March 18, 2022
Jiuel		[30 Days After the Dispositive Motion Deadline - LR 26-1(b)(5)]

With respect to the Pre-Trial Order, if dispositive motions are filed, the deadline for filing a Joint Pre-Trial Order will be suspended until 30-days after a decision on the dispositive motion(s) is/are rendered or until further Court notice. *See* Local Rule 26-1 (b)(5).

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#### **DISCOVERY DEADLINES**

If the Court has questions regarding the dates proposed by the parties, the parties request an opportunity for a conference with the Court before entry of this proposed amended Scheduling Order. If the Court does not have questions, the parties do not request a conference with the Court. All written discovery previously served with responses that are otherwise outstanding shall not be affected by any subsequent amended Order, unless the parties agree otherwise in writing.

VI.

## **EXTENSIONS OR MODIFICATIONS OF DISCOVERY DATES**

This Court's Local Rule 26-3 governs modifications or extensions of this Discovery Plan and Scheduling Order. According to the rule, "[a]II motions or stipulations to extend a deadline set forth in a discovery plan shall be received by the court no later than twenty-one (21) days before the expiration of the subject deadline."

VII.

## FORMAT OF DISCOVERY

Pursuant to the electronic discovery amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure effective December 1, 2006, the undersigned parties addressed the ediscovery issues pertaining to the format of discovery at the FRCP 26(f) conference. The parties agree that to the extent electronic discovery is requested or produced, such discovery shall be carried out in accordance with the procedures set forth in FRCP 34(b) and 26(b).

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VIII. 1 DISCOVERY DISPUTES 2 3 All discovery disputes in this case shall be governed by the provisions of Local Rule 26-6. The parties agree to employ good faith efforts to resolve all discovery 4 5 disputes prior to seeking intervention by the Court. IX. 6 PRESENTATION OF ELECTRONIC EVIDENCE TO A JURY 7 8 The parties certify that they communicated whether they intend to present 9 evidence in electronic format to jurors for the purpose of jury deliberations. At this time, the parties have not made any stipulations regarding providing discovery in an electronic 10 format compatible with the Court's electronic jury evidence display system. 11 12 13 Respectfully Submitted by: Respectfully Submitted by: PAUL PADDA LAW LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH 14 /s/ Paul S. Padda /s/ Josh Cole Aicklen 15 16 PAUL S. PADDA, ESQ. JOSH COLE AICKLEN Nevada Bar No. 10417 Nevada Bar No. 7254 TONY L. ABBATANGELO, ESQ. 17 JESSELYN V. DE LUNA Nevada Bar No. 3897 Nevada Bar No. 15031 18 4560 S. Decatur Boulevard, Ste. 300 6385 S. Rainbow Boulevard, Suite 600 Las Vegas, Nevada 89103 Las Vegas, Nevada 89118 19 Attorneys for Plaintiffs Attorneys for Defendant BTO Investments, Inc. Dated: September 7, 2021. 20 Dated: September 7, 2021. 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP

1		<i>Wood v. Carl's Jr., et al.</i> 2:20-cv-02329-APG-BNW	
2		2.20 0V 02020 / II G BIVVI	
3	Respectfully Submitted by:	Respectfully Submitted by:	
5	ALVERSON TAYLOR & SANDERS	GORDON REES SCULLY MANSUKHANI LLP	
6	/s/ Karie N. Wilson  KARIE N. WILSON	/s/ Rachel L. Wise ROBERT LARSEN	
7	Nevada Bar No. 7957 6605 Grand Montecito Parkway #200	Nevada Bar No. 7785 RACHEL L. WISE Nevada Bar No. 12303	
8 9	Las Vegas, Nevada 89149 Attorneys for Defendants CKE Restaurants, Inc., Carl's Jr. Restaurants,	300 S. Fourth Street, Suite 1550 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101	
10	LLC, Carl Karcher Enterprises, Inc., CKE Restaurant Holdings, Inc.	Attorneys for Defendant S.L. Investments	
11	Dated: September 7, 2021.	Dated: September 7, 2021.	
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21	Orde IT IS ORDERED t	<u>er</u> that ECF No. 54 is	
22	GRANTED. The parties are advised, however, that the Court does not		
23   24	intend to grant additional discovery extensions.		
25	IT IS SO ORDERED		
26	<b>DATED:</b> 9:36 a	am, September 08, 2021	
27	Bento	weter	
<u>.</u>	BRENDA WER	KSLER	

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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