

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

DONALD HESS and ELIZABETH PADILLA,
individually and on behalf of all others
similarly situated

Plaintiffs,

-against-

BED BATH & BEYOND INC.,

Defendant.

1:21-cv-04099 (JLR) (RWL)

NOTICE OF REASSIGNMENT

JENNIFER L. ROCHON, United States District Judge:

This case has been reassigned to the undersigned. All counsel must familiarize themselves with the Court's Individual Rules, which are available at <https://nysd.uscourts.gov/hon-jennifer-l-rochon>. Unless and until the Court orders otherwise, all prior orders, dates, and deadlines shall remain in effect notwithstanding the case's reassignment. Any conference or oral argument before or directed by the Magistrate Judge will proceed as ordered. However, all previously-scheduled appearances or conferences before the District Court are hereby adjourned pending further notice from the Court.

Additionally, within two weeks of the filing of this Order, the parties are hereby ORDERED to file on ECF a joint letter updating the Court on the status of the case. The joint letter shall not exceed four (4) pages, and shall provide the following information, to the extent it is relevant, in separate paragraphs:

1. Names of counsel and current contact information, if different from the information currently reflected on the docket;
2. A brief statement of the nature of the case and/or the principal defenses thereto;
3. A brief explanation of why jurisdiction and venue lie in this Court. In any action in which subject matter jurisdiction is founded on diversity of citizenship

pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 1332, the letter must explain the basis for the parties' belief that diversity of citizenship exists. Where any party is a corporation, the letter shall state both the place of incorporation and the principal place of business. In cases where any party is a partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, or trust, the letter shall state the citizenship of each of the entity's members, shareholders, partners, and/or trustees;

4. A statement of all existing deadlines, due dates, and/or cut-off dates;
5. A statement of any previously-scheduled conference dates with the Court that have not yet occurred and the matters that were to be discussed;
6. A brief description of any outstanding motions, including the date of the motion and the nature of the relief sought;
7. A statement and description of any pending appeals;
8. A detailed statement of all discovery undertaken to date, including how many depositions each party has taken and what, if any, discovery remains that is essential for the parties to engage in meaningful settlement negotiations;
9. A brief description of the status of prior settlement discussions, without disclosing exact offers and demands;
10. A statement of whether the parties have discussed the use of alternate dispute resolution mechanisms and indicating whether the parties believe that (a) a settlement conference before a Magistrate Judge; (b) participation in the District's Mediation Program; and/or (c) retention of a privately retained mediator would be appropriate and, if so, when in the case (*e.g.*, within the next

60 days, after the deposition of plaintiff is completed, after the close of fact discovery, etc.) the use of such a mechanism would be appropriate;

11. An estimate of the length of trial; and
12. Any other information that the parties believe may assist the Court in advancing the case to settlement or trial, including, but not limited to, a description of any dispositive or novel issue raised by the case.

If this case has been settled or otherwise terminated, counsel need not submit such letter or appear, provided that a stipulation of discontinuance, voluntary dismissal, or other proof of termination is filed on the docket prior to the joint letter submission deadline, using the appropriate ECF Filing Event. *See* SDNY ECF Rules & Instructions §§ 13.17-13.19, *available at* http://nysd.uscourts.gov/ecf_filing.php. Requests for extensions or adjournment of dates not affected by this Order may be made only in accordance with the Court's Individual Rules and Practices, which are available at <https://nysd.uscourts.gov/hon-jennifer-l-rochon>.

Dated: September 19, 2022
New York, New York

SO ORDERED.



JENNIFER L. ROCHON
United States District Judge