

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

CITY OF SEATTLE, a first-class charter
city,

Plaintiff,

v.

THE PROFESSIONAL BASKETBALL
CLUB, LLC, an Oklahoma limited
liability company,

Defendant.

No. C07-1620 MJP

DECLARATION OF JONATHAN H.
HARRISON IN SUPPORT OF THE
CITY'S OPPOSITION TO THE
PBC'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO
AMEND ITS ANSWER

I, Jonathan H. Harrison, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the following is true and correct. I am over the age of 18, have personal knowledge of the matters stated below, and, if called to testify, could and would so testify.

1. I am an attorney at K&L Gates and am licensed to practice law in the State of Washington. I represent the City of Seattle in the above-captioned matter.

2. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** is a true and correct copy of the Joint Status Report and Discovery Plan, filed with the Court on January 16, 2008 (Dkt. # 9).

3. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 2** is an excerpt from a true and correct transcription of the parties' Pretrial Conference with the Court on January 29, 2008.

DECLARATION OF JONATHAN H. HARRISON
IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY'S OPPOSITION TO
THE PBC'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO AMEND- 1

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 30th day of April, 2008, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to all interested parties registered for e-filing.

Dated: April 30, 2008

Signed: s/ Jonathan H. Harrison

DECLARATION OF JONATHAN H. HARRISON
IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY'S OPPOSITION TO
THE PBC'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO AMEND- 3

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EXHIBIT 1

The Honorable Marsha J. Pechman

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

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Plaintiff,

v

THE PROFESSIONAL BASKETBALL
CLUB, LLC, an Oklahoma limited liability
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Defendant.

No. C07-1620 MJP

JOINT STATUS REPORT AND
DISCOVERY PLAN

The City of Seattle ("City") and The Professional Basketball Club, LLC ("PBC") submit the following joint status report and discovery plan as required by this Court's December 5, 2007 Order Regarding Initial Disclosures, Joint Status Report, and Early Settlement ("Order"):

1. Statement of the nature and complexity of the case:

The City's statement: The City filed a declaratory judgment action that asks this Court to declare that the City is entitled to specific performance of PBC's contractual obligation, under Article II of the parties' Premises Use & Occupancy Agreement ("Lease"), to schedule and ensure that the Seattle SuperSonics (the "Sonics") play all home games at

JOINT STATUS REPORT
AND DISCOVERY PLAN - I

Case No. C07-1620 MJP

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1 KeyArena through the 2009-10 National Basketball Association season. The existence and
2 terms of the Lease are undisputed. This Court will, however, be required to address many
3 other complex issues. These include: (1) the unique nature of the Sonics as a tenant and the
4 impossibility of procuring a suitable substitute; (2) the nature and extent of harm that PBC's
5 breach would cause the City; (3) the difficulty of precisely calculating monetary damages;
6 (4) the fact that PBC's asserted monetary losses were foreseeable and voluntarily assumed;
7 and (5) other equitable factors relating to PBC's conduct.

8 The City objects to PBC's attempt to argue the merits of the case in the context of the
9 Joint Status Report, and simply notes that it strongly disagrees with PBC's characterization of
10 the dispute and the law governing the dispute. The City will fully explain its view of the
11 merits at the appropriate time and in the appropriate forum. Due to the nature and complexity
12 of the issues raised by the parties in this lawsuit, however, it will be impossible to proceed on
13 the expedited schedule proposed by PBC. Should the Court wish at this time a more detailed
14 response to PBC's discussion of the nature of the dispute and the applicable law, the City will
15 be happy to furnish one.

16 **The PBC's statement:** Defendant believes that although this is a high profile case, it
17 is nevertheless a straightforward landlord-tenant dispute. Defendant stands ready to pay all
18 remaining amounts owed under the lease through the end of the lease in 2010. The only
19 remaining question is whether the City can also force the Sonics to play in KeyArena during
20 that period, even though both sides will lose money as a result, and, as Deputy Mayor Ceis
21 explains, the relationship is "dysfunctional."

22 The longstanding, universally-accepted rule is that a landlord is not entitled to specific
23 performance in addition to the rent. Exceptions to this rule are rare. In sports cases in
24 particular, the landlord has the burden of showing that the presence of a sports franchise
25 creates financial benefits for the City beyond the lease and that there would be an impact on
26

1 the “fabric of the community” if the games are played elsewhere. The financial issue is
 2 simple, and the City’s analysts agree, there will be no net economic loss if the Sonics leave
 3 Seattle. Entertainment dollars not spent on the Sonics will be spent on Seattle’s many other
 4 sports and entertainment options. Seattleites will not reduce their entertainment budget
 5 simply because the Sonics leave. As to the impact on the fabric of the community, the PBC
 6 will present a recent survey showing that a significant majority of Seattleites—66 percent—
 7 say it makes no difference to them if the Sonics leave, and that only a relative handful of
 8 people—12 percent—say their life will be “much worse off.” The overwhelming attitude is
 9 apathy.

10 Ultimately, the Court will have to decide whether specific performance for the two
 11 remaining seasons makes sense even though the lease ends after the 2009/2010 season, at
 12 which time even the City concedes the Sonics are free to leave. Stated otherwise, the City
 13 will lose the war even if it wins this battle. To the extent the City’s strategy involves a
 14 holding pattern until a local buyer appears, none has surfaced. This is not surprising because
 15 there were no local buyers when the prior ownership group sold the franchise. More
 16 fundamentally, the team is not for sale.

17 **2. ADR method:**

18 **The City’s position:** PBC sought to compel arbitration, and this Court ruled that this
 19 dispute is not subject to the Lease’s mandatory arbitration provision. The City is willing to
 20 engage in mediation as soon as possible, provided that resolutions that involve keeping the
 21 Sonics at KeyArena are “on the table.” Absent PBC’s willingness to address this key issue,
 22 mediation would not be appropriate at this time.

23 **The PBC’s position:** A Court-ordered mediation should commence promptly. In a
 24 case like this, which includes a heavy political agenda, the public may benefit from a fresh set
 25 of eyes. A neutral mediator might offer new perspectives, particularly given the financial
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1 benefits available to the public through a negotiated resolution that will not be available if
2 specific performance is ordered.

3 **3. Timing of ADR:**

4 **The City's position:** If the conditions set forth in #2 are satisfied, mediation should
5 occur as soon as possible.

6 **The PBC's position:** Mediation should occur promptly. There is very little
7 information to be obtained in discovery that is not already known or that is necessary for an
8 informed mediation.

9 **4. Proposed deadline for joining additional parties:**

10 **The City's proposed deadline:** May 16, 2008. Contrary to PBC's statement on this
11 issue, there is a potential additional party – the National Basketball Association. According to
12 press reports the NBA is currently reviewing PBC's application to move the Sonics, and is
13 scheduled to decide in April 2008. If the NBA approves a move in violation of the plain
14 terms of the Lease, the City will have to consider adding the NBA as an additional necessary
15 party to this litigation.

16 **The PBC's proposed deadline:** The deadline is unnecessary. There are no additional
17 parties to join.

18 **5. Proposed discovery plan:**

19 **a. Date of FRCP 26(f) conference:** December 19, 2007; **Date of FRCP 26(a)**
20 **initial disclosures:** January 9, 2008;

21 **b. Subjects on which discovery may be needed:**

22 **The City's position:** Discovery will be required on topics including but not limited
23 to: the finances of the Sonics including the team's past financial performance; the financial
24 impact of the Sonics' presence in Seattle; the non-financial impact of the Sonics on the Seattle
25 community; PBC's knowledge regarding its Lease obligations and regarding the Sonics'

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JOINT STATUS REPORT
AND DISCOVERY PLAN - 4

Case No C07-1620 MJP

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1 finances when purchasing the team; PBC's admitted intention to seek to relocate the Sonics to
2 Oklahoma City; PBC's negotiations with Oklahoma City regarding the Sonics; the anticipated
3 financial and non-financial impact of relocating the Sonics; and the extent to which PBC
4 made good faith efforts, if at all, to keep the Sonics in Seattle.

5 PBC mischaracterizes the nature and complexity of the issues and discovery necessary
6 to explore those issues. As a preliminary matter, document discovery will involve not just
7 PBC and its members, but will necessarily involve third-party parties including the NBA,
8 Oklahoma City and the operators of the facility where PBC seeks to move the Sonics.
9 Although the City is prepared to issue this discovery in the near future, obtaining responsive
10 documents is likely to take significant time and effort.

11 In addition, PBC has publicly acknowledged that it will rely on the "equities" in its
12 attempt to avoid specific performance. In doing so, PBC will put at issue complicated tax and
13 accounting issues; the cultural and economic impacts associated with the Sonics; the question
14 of whether PBC's effort to attempt to retain the team in Seattle were actually genuine and
15 reasonable; and the extent to which KeyArena will be affected by the loss of its anchor tenant.
16 The parties have sharp disagreements about these issues. PBC's statement that there is no
17 dispute about the financial viability of the lease and KeyArena is not accurate. Significant
18 fact and expert discovery is necessary to adequately explore the issues.

19 **The PBC's position:** Most of the subjects listed by the City are not really in dispute,
20 nor do they require much discovery. For example, the Sonics' financial performance is
21 detailed in their financial records, which will be produced shortly. Likewise, the PBC
22 stipulates that it knew the terms of the lease when it purchased the team. Thus, no discovery
23 is necessary on this issue. Likewise, there is no dispute about the financial viability of the
24 lease and KeyArena. The City's lawyers previously studied the lease extensively and wrote
25 that the lease is "the worst lease in the NBA and . . . does not permit the team to be
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JOINT STATUS REPORT
AND DISCOVERY PLAN - 5

Case No. C07-1620 MJP

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1 competitive,” and that KeyArena is itself not “competitive.” As to the PBC’s negotiations
 2 with Oklahoma City, the City apparently believes that the team’s move to Oklahoma City was
 3 a “wired deal” at the time the PBC purchased the team. But as Oklahoma City’s response to
 4 Seattle’s public records request confirms, there was no communication between the PBC and
 5 Oklahoma City regarding relocation until after November 1, 2007. Regarding the extent to
 6 which the City made good faith efforts to keep the Sonics in Seattle, discovery will show that
 7 the PBC spent several million dollars and many months of substantial effort in its
 8 unsuccessful attempt to obtain an economically viable venue in the Seattle area. The City’s
 9 lawyers are aware of certain of those efforts, having assisted in them. Likewise, the City’s
 10 lawyers spearheaded the unsuccessful efforts by prior ownership to obtain a new local arena
 11 for the Sonics

12 In short, like in any case, there is much discovery that could be done. Realistically,
 13 there is little discovery that needs to be done given the narrow issues. This is, at bottom, a
 14 landlord/tenant dispute.

15 **c. Changes on the limitations on discovery imposed by the Civil Rules:**

16 **The City’s position:** The parties should be permitted to take up to 25 depositions per
 17 side. PBC made numerous arguments in its arbitration demand in opposition to the City’s
 18 right to specific performance of the Lease. This case will require the City to obtain testimony
 19 from: (a) multiple principals of PBC about topics including but not limited to their knowledge
 20 of the Sonics’ financial performance when entering into the Lease; the extent and causes of
 21 their claimed operational losses; their good faith efforts, or lack thereof, to keep the Sonics in
 22 Seattle; and the admitted intention from the outset by a member of PBC that they “didn’t buy
 23 the team to keep it in Seattle, [but] hoped to come here [i.e., Oklahoma City]”; (b)
 24 representatives of the NBA about topics including but not limited to the historical and current
 25 finances of the Sonics and of other NBA franchises, and the financial and non-financial
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JOINT STATUS REPORT
 AND DISCOVERY PLAN - 6

Case No. C07-1620 MJP

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1 impact of NBA teams on their communities; (c) representatives of former ownership and/or
 2 the Sonics themselves about topics including but not limited to the historical financial
 3 performance of the Sonics and the Sonics' role in the Seattle community; (d) representatives
 4 of Oklahoma City about topics including but not limited to PBC's efforts to relocate the
 5 Sonics; and (e) experts about topics including but not limited to the financial and non-
 6 financial impacts on the City if PBC were to relocate the Sonics outside of the Seattle area.
 7 Indeed, PBC itself identified 12 persons with knowledge in its initial disclosures, including
 8 Aubrey McClendon, apart from any additional expert witnesses.

9 **The PBC's position:** Defendant does not believe that a landlord/tenant dispute
 10 requires 25 depositions per side. Per FRCP 30, each side should be permitted a maximum of
 11 10 depositions. For example, the City does not need to depose "multiple principals of PBC."
 12 Clay Bennett is the chairman of the PBC. He is knowledgeable about all relevant matters.
 13 The City also wants to depose Aubrey McClendon, who supposedly harbored the intention to
 14 move the Sonics to Oklahoma City from the start. There is no need, however, to depose any
 15 other owners of the PBC. Similarly, extensive depositions are not necessary on operating
 16 losses—the financial statements show what they show. Likewise, it is not necessary to
 17 depose the NBA about the Sonics' finances—again, the records show what they show. It is
 18 similarly doubtful that the City's lawyers will be deposing "representatives of former
 19 ownership" because the City's lawyers represented the former owners and led the
 20 unsuccessful effort by prior ownership to get a new arena. They know what their former
 21 clients will say.

22 Ten depositions per side are more than adequate.

23 **d. Minimization of discovery expense:**

24 **The City's position:** The City has already provided thousands of pages of documents
 25 to PBC in response to a request under the Washington Public Records Act. The City believes
 26

1 that many of the documents PBC is likely to request in discovery are contained within this
2 group of already produced documents.

3 **The PBC's position:** The PBC agrees that the City has already provided thousands of
4 pages of documents in response to a public records request. The PBC envisions needing very
5 little, if any, additional document discovery from the City.

6 **e. Any other required orders:**

7 **The City's position:** The parties will submit to the Court a stipulated protective order
8 to govern the treatment and handling of confidential documents. The City proposes that this
9 Court order disclosure of experts by June 6, 2008, and disclosure of rebuttal experts by June
10 27, 2008. No other orders are required at this time

11 Contrary to PBC's contention, the City has not retained all necessary experts at this
12 early stage in the litigation. The City is actively talking to additional potential experts, and it
13 now appears, based on PBC's apparent intent to rely upon undisclosed consumer survey work,
14 that yet additional experts may need to be retained by the City. The testimony of the City's
15 experts necessarily depends upon an evidentiary record produced through party and third-
16 party discovery. Fact discovery will need to proceed before expert discovery and disclosure,
17 as contemplated in the normal course by the Local Rules.

18 **The PBC's position:** The PBC has already retained its experts and is prepared to
19 make prompt disclosure of their reports. The PBC has reason to believe that the City likewise
20 retained its experts some time ago. Moreover, the expert testimony does not depend on fact
21 witnesses and thus need not be delayed until fact witness depositions are concluded.
22 Accordingly, the PBC proposes disclosure of primary experts by February 10, 2008, and
23 rebuttal experts by February 24, 2008.

24 **6. Completion date for the remainder of discovery:**

25 **The City's position:** The City proposes a discovery cutoff of July 25, 2008.

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JOINT STATUS REPORT
AND DISCOVERY PLAN - 8

Case No. C07-1620 MJP
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1 **The PBC's position:** The PBC proposes a discovery cutoff of March 7, 2008.

2 **7. Referral to a Magistrate Judge:** The parties do not agree to referral to a
3 Magistrate Judge.

4 **8. Bifurcation:**

5 **The City's position:** At present, the case presents a single issue – whether the City is
6 entitled to specific performance under the Lease – and bifurcation is thus not required.

7 **The PBC's position:** The PBC agrees.

8 **9. Need for pretrial statements/orders required by the Local Rules:**

9 **The City's position:** The requirements of the Local Rules appear appropriate at this
10 time.

11 **The PBC's position:** The PBC agrees.

12 **10. Other suggestions for shortening the case:**

13 **The City's position:**

14 **The PBC's position:** The PBC has no additional suggestions for shortening the case.

15 **11. Trial date:**

16 **The City's position:** The City proposes a trial date of October 27, 2008. This case
17 involves a sports franchise that has been in Seattle for 40 years. While the City agrees that
18 there is an interest in getting the case resolved (and has proposed an appropriately expedited
19 schedule), it is also essential that the City be given a full and fair opportunity to conduct
20 discovery, and prepare and present its case. PBC's proposed schedule does not allow
21 adequate time. The trial date proposed by the City is the earliest date by which the parties can
22 reasonably complete the work necessary to adequately address all of the issues raised at trial.

23 **The PBC's position:** The PBC proposes a trial date of March 24, 2008. It is
24 important for both sides, and numerous interested third parties, that the case be resolved as
25 soon as possible. Wherever the Sonics are playing, considerable planning and lead time are
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1 required to prepare for the 2008-2009 season, and myriad details must be worked out
2 regarding offices, ticket sales, marketing, sponsorships, player contracts, coaches, media
3 contracts, trademark issues, etc. All of these and other matters are in limbo until the case is
4 resolved. Likewise, players, office staff, and their families need to make living arrangements,
5 potentially buying and selling houses, picking schools, etc. Additionally, the City needs to
6 know, now, whether the Sonics will play in KeyArena for the remaining two seasons under
7 the lease or whether it will have additional available dates to rent out KeyArena in 2008-2010,
8 while still collecting rent from the PBC. In short, many people and many issues are in a state
9 of uncertainty until this case is decided.

10 **12. Jury/non-jury trial:**

11 **The City's position:** At present, the case involves solely a declaratory judgment
12 action regarding an equitable issue (specific performance) not subject to a jury trial.

13 **The PBC's position:** The PBC agrees.

14 **13. The number of trial days required:**

15 **The City's position:** The City believes the case will require a 10 day trial

16 **The PBC's position:** The PBC believes that five trial days are sufficient, particularly
17 because it is a bench trial and the issues are not complicated.

18 **14. Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of trial counsel:**

19 **Counsel for the City:**

20 Thomas A. Carr
21 Seattle City Attorney's Office
22 600 4th Avenue, 4th Floor
23 P.O. Box 94769
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(206) 684-8288

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24 Slade Gorton
25 K&L Gates
26 925 Fourth Avenue, Ste 2900
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JOINT STATUS REPORT
AND DISCOVERY PLAN - 10

Case No C07-1620 MJP

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Counsel for the PBC: Bradley S. Keller
Paul R. Taylor
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15. Service on defendants: All defendants have been served.

16. Desire for scheduling conference before entrance of scheduling order:

The City's position: The City believes a scheduling conference would be helpful.

The PBC's position: The PBC agrees.

DATED this 16th day of January, 2008.

By: /s/ Paul J. Lawrence
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Paul J. Lawrence, WSBA No. 13557
Jeffrey Johnson, WSBA No. 23066
Jonathan Harrison, WSBA No. 31390
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By: /s/ Gregory C. Narver
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JOINT STATUS REPORT
AND DISCOVERY PLAN - 11

Case No. C07-1620 MJP

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EXHIBIT 2

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
3 IN SEATTLE

4 CITY OF SEATTLE,)
5)
6 Plaintiff,) No. C07-1620MJP
7)
8 v.)
9)
10 THE PROFESSIONAL BASKETBALL CLUB,)
11 LLC, an Oklahoma limited liability)
12 company,)
13 Defendant.)
14)

15 PRETRIAL CONFERENCE
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BEFORE THE HONORABLE MARSHA J. PECHMAN

January 29, 2008

1 APPEARANCES:

2 For the Plaintiff
3 City of Seattle:4 Jeffrey Charles Johnson
5 Paul J. Lawrence
6 K&L PRESTON GATES ELLIS
7 Attorneys at Law8 Gregory Colin Narver
9 SEATTLE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
10 Attorney at Law11 For the Defendant
12 Professional Basketball
13 Club LLC:14 Bradley S. Keller
15 Paul R. Taylor
16 BYRNES & KELLER
17 Attorneys at Law

1 get this discovery --

2 We also will need some fact depositions to support our expert
3 works. Our process is to get the discovery responses, review the
4 documents, try to set up depositions as expeditiously as
5 possible, provide all that information to our experts. We think
6 that they would be ready for their initial disclosures in early
7 June.

8 And then we have set in the post schedule three weeks for
9 rebuttals, and then a month for concluding discovery, which we
10 anticipate at that point will be the expert depositions. And so
11 we think the case in that sense will be ready through -- by the
12 end of July.

13 And then at that point -- we propose what we think is a
14 typical period between time of closed discovery and the trial
15 date proposed in October. But we do feel that we definitely need
16 that time to get the factual discovery done, get our stuff to our
17 experts and get their work done.

18 MR. KELLER: Your Honor, the single issue that this
19 case presents --

20 THE COURT: Mr. Keller, it looks like you are hurt.

21 MR. KELLER: It was dental surgery.

22 THE COURT: I'm sorry.

23 MR. KELLER: I wish I could tell you the other guy looks
24 worse than I do, but since he was the surgeon he looks pretty
25 good.

1 The single issue that this case presents is whether the City,
2 the landlord of Key Arena, is entitled to specific performance of
3 the last two seasons under the lease, specific performance that
4 would require the Sonics to play out their home games at Key
5 Arena, or whether a court, sitting in equity, as your Honor will
6 be doing, deciding a specific performance claim, whether the
7 Court would deny specific performance under these circumstances
8 and limit the City to its contractual right to be paid the rent.

9 The lease contains a provision that provides the home games
10 will be played at Key Arena. If that lease provision was all
11 that mattered we could all go home right now. But the lease
12 provision really is only going to end up being one factor.

13 It actually turns out there is quite a bit of decisional case
14 law that exists in this area, including prior cases that involve
15 professional sports arrangements and landlord/tenant dealings.

16 Both sides are definitely going to want an opportunity to
17 discuss that case law with you and make their respective factual
18 showings regarding the issues. But the issues really are pretty
19 discreet, both factually and legally.

20 From a factual standpoint, the parties are going to be
21 wanting to present evidence about the economic aspects of their
22 relationship. They are going to be wanting to present evidence
23 about the suitability of Key Arena for an NBA franchise, what
24 some of the past efforts have been to obtain government/community
25 support for building a new arena, and what kind of net financial

1 benefits, if any, accrued to a community of Seattle's stature
2 from having an NBA franchise.

3 I really have only one purpose here today. It is to get the
4 earliest possible trial date that we can get. And hopefully one
5 this May.

6 There are three reasons why we are asking for the earliest
7 possible trial date. The first is that the Sonics have a very
8 real need to know by this spring whether next season they are or
9 are not going to have the right to play elsewhere.

10 The NBA as a league does its scheduling for the next season
11 during the June time period. The Sonics have applied to the NBA
12 to relocate the franchise. That relocation and the application
13 itself is subject, of course, to whatever this Court rules are
14 its rights under the lease.

15 You have an entire basketball organization --

16 THE COURT: Mr. Keller, you need to help me understand
17 what that outside influence means. In other words, if the NBA
18 says to the Sonics, no, you can't move to Oklahoma, are we done?

19 MR. KELLER: If they unequivocally say you cannot move
20 to Oklahoma at all?

21 THE COURT: Or you can't move to Oklahoma for two years
22 or one year or whatever, does that moot this litigation?

23 MR. KELLER: In the abstract, yes. I suspect the detail
24 would be in the fine print, they would say you can't move to
25 Oklahoma or you can't move elsewhere unless you resolve the lease

1 situation either through the courts or with the City as your
2 landlord. And that's what I meant by conditional.

3 My client very much respects the right of this Court to
4 decide this controversy. We are not moving out in the middle of
5 the night. We have applied to the NBA for the right to move, but
6 that application itself to the NBA is conditioned on the
7 presumption that either through a negotiated resolution or a
8 court adjudication that the Sonics get the entitlement to leave.

9 So what are some of the external factors? The first reason
10 is you have an entire organization, you've got its players, its
11 coach and its staff and the entire NBA league needing to know by
12 June where this organization is going to be for the '08/'09
13 season. That's the first reason. You also have a fan base that
14 wants to no one way or the other when they are re-upping and
15 considering whether to get season tickets next year.

16 The second reason is that this case can be ready to be tried
17 in May. In fact, it could be ready for a trial in April.
18 Whether you are dealing with a three or four-day bench trial --

19 THE COURT: So you have abandoned March?

20 MR. KELLER: I have abandoned March. I asked for March
21 figuring it was going to be April or May. I can be ready for
22 this case in March.

23 If I thought that there was a real -- I know that your Honor
24 likes to have a certain period of time that works back from the
25 trial date to arrange for the hearing of dispositive motions.

1 And so I am abandoning March. That was in the joint status
2 report in recognition of the fact that if we can get May we can
3 still finish discovery by March and still have that kind of a
4 hiatus that your Honor likes to have for dispositive motions.

5 But whether this case is a three day or a four-day trial, or
6 a six or a seven-day bench trial, the number of witnesses really
7 is modest and the issues are not complex. This case has been
8 pending for over three and a half months, since early October.
9 There really isn't a whole lot of discovery to do. Maybe a half
10 a dozen or so fact witnesses and some experts and the case is
11 ready.

12 And there is a third reason why the case should be set for
13 trial in May. Because of these league scheduling issues if this
14 case doesn't get decided by May you have in effect decided it for
15 the next season. If the case is not decided in this May/June
16 time frame the practicalities of the situation are that the
17 schedule for next year is going to be probably set as if the
18 Sonics will be in Seattle for the next season.

19 Whether that scheduling dynamic helps illuminate what might
20 have been the City's motive for asking for an October trial date,
21 that might be something that is interesting to speculate about.

22 We did try and enlist the City in joining us back in November
23 and early December in requesting the scheduling conference back
24 then, and approaching the Court in December and jointly asking
25 for an early trial date. They declined to do so.

EXHIBIT 3

The Honorable Ricardo S. Martinez

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

CITY OF SEATTLE, a first-class charter
city,

Plaintiff,

v.

THE PROFESSIONAL BASKETBALL
CLUB, LLC, an Oklahoma limited liability
company,

Defendant.

No. C07-1620 RSM

JURY DEMAND

Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the City of Seattle makes this jury demand for those issues, raised in the parties' pleadings in the above-entitled action, that are properly tried to a jury. The City of Seattle further elects to try those issues before a jury of twelve.

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JURY DEMAND - 1

Case No. C07-1620

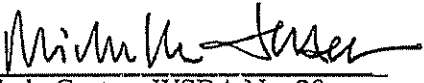
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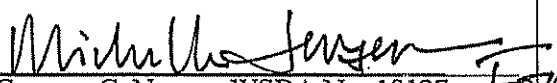
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1
2 DATED this 11th day of October, 2007.

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JURY DEMAND - 2
Case No. C07-1620

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on October 11, 2007, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to the following:

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JURY DEMAND - 3
Case No C07-1620

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