

The Honorable Robert S. Lasnik

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, *ex rel.*
by SCEF, LLC, *et al.*,

Plaintiff,

v.

ASTRAZENECA PLC, *et al.*,

Defendants

No. 2:17-cv-01328-RSL

JOINT MOTION, STIPULATION AND
~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER TO EXTEND
TIME FOR RULE 26(f) CONFERENCE,
INITIAL DISCLOSURES, AND JOINT
STATUS REPORT

NOTE ON MOTION CALENDAR:
February 14, 2019

JOINT MOTION AND STIPULATION

Relators SCEF LLC, Lynne Levin-Guzman and Stanley Jean, and Defendants Virtual Marketing Strategies, Inc. ("VMS"), AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, InVentiv Health Inc., Publicis Healthcare Solutions Inc. and Triplefin LLC respectfully submit this joint motion and stipulation pursuant to Local Court Rules 7(d)(1), 10(g), and 16, to extend time for the FRCP 26(f) Conference, Initial Disclosures, and Joint Status Report to 30 days after the filing of Defendants' Answers to the Complaint or, should any Defendants file motions to dismiss, 30 days after the issuance of an order on such motions, based on the following facts:

JOINT MOTION, STIPULATION AND ORDER TO EXTEND TIME
FOR RULE 26(f) CONFERENCE, INITIAL DISCLOSURES, AND
JOINT STATUS REPORT – Page 1
No: 2:17-cv-01328-RSL)

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1 1. On September 1, 2017, Plaintiffs filed their Complaint under the Federal False
2 Claims Act and state false claims act and qui tam laws, naming as defendants AstraZeneca PLC,
3 AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, VMS, InVentiv Health Inc., Publicis Healthcare Solutions Inc.
4 and Triplefin LLC. (Doc. #1).

5 2. Defendants InVentiv Health Inc., AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, Publicis
6 Healthcare Solutions Inc. and Triplefin LLC each waived service of summons. (Doc. #13, 17, 18
7 & 24). Defendant VMS was served with the Summons and Complaint on December 21, 2018.
8 (Doc. #26).

9 3. On December 20, 2018, Relators were granted additional time, until April 5,
10 2019, to serve AstraZeneca PLC, an international defendant. (Doc. #23).

11 4. On December 17, 2018, the United States of America filed a Motion to Dismiss
12 (Doc. #15), which has been re-noted to February 22, 2019. (Doc. #36).

13 5. Counsel for the Relators, and for defendants VMS, InVentiv Health Inc.,
14 AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, LP, Triplefin LLC and Publicis Healthcare Solutions then
15 conferred regarding the deadline for responsive pleadings to the Complaint and on January 11,
16 2019, Defendant VMS filed an Agreed Motion requesting to extend the deadline for all
17 defendants to respond to the Complaint. (Doc. #32). The Court granted the Agreed Motion
18 extending the deadline for all defendants to respond to the Complaint until forty-five (45) days
19 after the Court's ruling on the Government's Motion to Dismiss. (Doc. #33).

20 6. On February 6, 2019, this Court issued its Order Regarding Initial Disclosures,
21 Joint Status Report, and Early Settlement. The Order set the following deadlines: Fed. R. Civ. P.
22 26(f) Conference: February 20, 2019; Initial Disclosures: February 27, 2019; and Joint Status
23 Report: March 6, 2019. (Doc. #35).

1 7. Given the pending motion to dismiss, and the fact that defendants have not yet
2 filed any responsive pleadings to the Complaint, the parties believe that good cause exists to
3 postpone the upcoming deadlines for the FRCP 26(f) Conference, Initial Disclosures, and the
4 Joint Status Report until thirty (30) days after the filing of Defendants' Answers to the
5 Complaint or, should any Defendants file motions to dismiss, 30 days after the issuance of an
6 order on such motions.
7

8 8. The parties hereby stipulate and agree that the deadlines for the FRCP 26(f)
9 Conference, Initial Disclosures, and the Joint Status Report will be postponed until 30 days after
10 the filing of Defendants' Answers to the Complaint or, should any Defendants file motions to
11 dismiss, 30 days after the issuance of an order on such motions.
12

13 9. The following deadlines for Initial Disclosures and submission of the Joint Status
14 Report and Discovery Plan shall apply:

15 Deadline for FRCP 26(f) Conference: 30 days after the filing of Defendants' Answers to
16 the Complaint or, should any Defendants file motions to dismiss, 30 days after the
issuance of an order on such motions.

17 Initial Disclosures: 7 days after Deadline for FRCP 26(f) Conference.

18 Combined Joint Status Report and Discovery Plan as Required by FRCP 26(f) and Local
19 Civil Rule 26(f): 14 days after Deadline for FRCP 26(f) Conference.
20

21 STIPULATED TO this 14 day of February, 2019.

22 s/ Laura R. Gerber
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a/k/a VMS

8 **ORDER**

9 IT IS SO ORDERED.

10 DATED this 22nd day of February, 2019.

MRS Lasnik

11
12
13 HON. ROBERT S. LASNIK
United States District Judge

14 Presented by:

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