

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

DION QUINN,

Plaintiff,

V.

LLOYD J. AUSTIN, III,

Defendant.

CASE NO. C23-0665JLR

ORDER

Before the court is Defendant Lloyd J. Austin, III’s motion for an extension of the initial scheduling deadlines. (Mot. (Dkt. # 23).) In particular, Defendant seeks a f discovery pending the court’s ruling on Defendant’s forthcoming motion to ss. (*Id.* at 1.) Although Plaintiff Dion Quinn declined to stipulate to an extension 2), he does not oppose Defendant’s motion (*see generally* Dkt.). The court has dered Defendant’s submission, the relevant portions of the record, and the n law. Being fully advised, the court GRANTS Defendant’s motion.

ORDER - 1

1 Pursuant to the court’s October 13, 2023 order, the Rule 26(f) conference deadline
2 was October 27, 2023, and the parties’ initial disclosures deadline is November 13, 2023.
3 (10/13/23 Order (Dkt. # 21) at 1.) However, “district courts, upon a showing of ‘good
4 cause,’ have broad discretion in determining whether to stay discovery pending the
5 resolution of a potentially dispositive motion.” *Zeiger v. Hotel Cal. by the Sea LLC*, No.
6 C21-1702TL-SKV, 2022 WL 1499670, at *2 (W.D. Wash. May 12, 2022) (citing *Jarvis
v. Regan*, 833 F.2d 149, 155 (9th Cir. 1987)); *see also Little v. City of Seattle*, 863 F.2d
7 681, 685 (9th Cir. 1988). When the court is considering whether to stay discovery based
8 on a potentially dispositive motion, good cause is determined through a two-part test.
9
10 *Ahern Rentals Inc. v. Mendenhall*, No. C20-0542JCC, 2020 WL 8678084, at *1 (W.D.
11 Wash. July 9, 2020). “First, the pending motion must be potentially dispositive of the
12 entire case, or at least on the issue to which discovery is directed. Second, the court must
13 determine if the pending dispositive motion can be decided without additional
14 discovery.” *Id.* (citing *Panola Land Buyer’s Ass’n v. Shuman*, 762 F.2d 1550, 1560 (11th
15 Cir. 1985)).

16 Defendant has shown good cause to issue a stay of discovery. First, Defendant
17 asserts that the “motion to dismiss will challenge two key deficiencies—subject matter
18 jurisdiction and venue—one of which has potential to dispose of the case in its entirety,
19 and the other, to potentially transfer the case to a different judicial district.” (Mot. at 3);
20 *see also Ahern*, 2020 WL 8678084, at *1 (“[A] challenge to venue is a ‘common
21 example’ of a situation warranting a stay of discovery.” (quoting *Twin City Fire Ins. Co.
22 v. Emps. Ins. of Wausau*, 124 F.R.D. 652, 653 (D. Nev. 1989))). Second, Defendant

1 | argues that a ruling on its motion to dismiss will not require additional discovery because
2 | “the totality of the issues to be raised via motion can be resolved through review of the
3 | operative complaint and/or his EEO materials (over which this [c]ourt may take judicial
4 | notice).” (Mot. at 3); *see also Lacayo v. Donahoe*, No. 14-cv-04077-JSC, 2015 WL
5 | 993448, at *9 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 4, 2015) (“[I]t is well established that courts may consider
6 | the administrative record of a plaintiff’s claims before the EEOC as judicially noticeable
7 | matters of public record.”). The court also considers Mr. Quinn’s failure to respond to
8 | Defendant’s motion as an admission that it has merit. Local Rules W.D. Wash. LCR
9 | 7(b)(2). Accordingly, Defendant has established that there is good cause to issue a stay
10 | of discovery pending the forthcoming motion to dismiss.

11 | For the foregoing reasons, the court GRANTS Defendant’s motion (Dkt. # 23).
12 | The court expects that Defendant will timely file the motion to dismiss by November 14,
13 | 2023. The new initial scheduling deadlines are as follows:

14	Deadline for FRCP 26(f) Conference:	3/1/2024
15	Initial Disclosures Pursuant to FRCP 26(a)(1):	3/18/2024
16	Combined Joint Status Report and Discovery 17 Plan as Required by FRCP 26(f) and Local 18 Civil Rule 26(f):	3/22/2024

19 | The deadlines above may be extended only by order of the court. Any request for
20 | an extension should be made by filing a motion or stipulated motion pursuant to Local
21 | Civil Rule 7(j). The parties are directed to meet and to confer before requesting an
22 | extension.

1 Dated this 13th day of November, 2023.

2 
3 JAMES L. ROBART
4 United States District Judge