U.S. DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OE TEXAS **FIL.ED** 

SEP 12 2019

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

SECOND AMENDED MISCELLANEOUS ORDER 162.62

The Dallas division of the Northern District of Texas is participating in a pilot project for the efficient and effective management of patent cases.<sup>2</sup> Unless otherwise directed by the presiding judge in an individual case, this Order will control the management of patent cases as defined below in paragraph 1-2.

#### 1. SCOPE

#### 1-1. Title.

This Order should be cited as "Miscellaneous Order No. 62," followed by the applicable paragraph number.

## 1-2. Scope and Construction.

This Order applies to all civil actions filed in or transferred to the Dallas division of the Northern District of Texas that allege infringement of a utility patent in a complaint, counterclaim, cross-claim, or third-party claim or seek a declaratory judgment that a utility patent is not infringed, is invalid, or is unenforceable. The presiding judge may accelerate, extend, eliminate, or modify the obligations or deadlines established in this Order based on the circumstances of any particular patent case, including, without limitation, the complexity of the case or the number of patents, claims, products, or parties involved. If any motion filed prior to the claim construction hearing provided for in paragraph 4-6 raises claim construction issues, the presiding judge may, for good

<sup>&#</sup>x27;This Second Amended Miscellaneous Order No. 62 contains changes intended to promote and encourage a speedy and efficient disposition of cases.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The rules of practice established by this Order will be carefully reviewed for editorial and substantive revisions and will be renumbered in accordance with Judicial Conference policy if later considered for adoption as local civil rules of this court.

cause shown, defer the motion until after completion of the disclosures, filings, or ruling following the claim construction hearing. The local civil rules of this court apply to these actions except to the extent they are inconsistent with this Order.

#### 1-3. Effective Date.

This Order will take effect on October 1, 2019, and will apply to any Dallas division patent case filed on or after that date. It will also apply to any pending Dallas division patent case in which, on the date this Order takes effect, more than 9 days remain before the initial disclosure of asserted claims and preliminary infringement contentions required by paragraph 3-1 is due.

The parties to any other pending Dallas division patent case must meet and confer promptly after October 1, 2019, to determine whether any provision in this Order should be made applicable to that case. No later than 7 days after the parties meet and confer, the parties must file a stipulation setting forth a proposed order that relates to the application of this Order. Unless and until the presiding judge enters an order applying this Order, the rules of practice previously applicable to these other pending Dallas division patent cases will govern.

#### 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS

# 2-1. Governing Procedure.

(a) Conference of the Parties and Case Management Statement. Lead counsel for each party must participate in a conference under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) in person or by telephone. As a result of the conference under Rule 26(f), counsel shall jointly prepare and file a case management statement. For any areas of dispute, the statement should clearly define the parties' respective positions. In the case management statement, the parties must address the matters required to be covered by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f), and the following additional matters:

- (1) Proposed modification of the deadlines provided for in this Order, and the effect of any such modification on the date and time of the claim construction hearing, if any;
- (2) Electronic discovery plan or any proposed e-discovery order (see Appendix B);
- (3) The need for presenting technical tutorials to the presiding judge and the mode for presenting same;
- (4) Deviations from and additions to the model orders described in paragraph 2-1(e);
- (5) Whether either party desires the presiding judge to hear live testimony at the claim construction hearing;
- (6) The need for and any specific limits on discovery relating to claim construction, including depositions of witnesses, including expert witnesses;
- (7) The scheduling of a claim construction prehearing conference between attorneys to be held after the filing of the joint claim construction and prehearing statement required by paragraph 4-3; and
- (8) The need for any deviation from the ordinary practice of early and late mediations, as well as the potential dates for early and late mediations.
- (b) Initial Case Management Conference. After the parties file the case management statement under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(0, the presiding judge will schedule a case management conference between the presiding judge and counsel for the parties. Unless ordered otherwise by the presiding judge, lead counsel for each party will attend the case management conference in person. When appropriate, the presiding judge may also order that party representatives attend the

case management conference in person. In addition to the matters set forth in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) and paragraph 2-1(a) to be addressed in the case management statement, a non-exhaustive list of additional matters that could be addressed in the case management statement and at the first or subsequent case management conferences include the following:

- (1) Brief overview of the case;
- (2) History of the case, including any rulings issued in any Court, and the current procedural posture of the case;
- (3) Likelihood and timing of motions to transfer;
- (4) Likelihood and timing of any proceedings before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) (for example, inter parties review proceedings, post-grant review proceedings, or transitional program for covered business method patents);
- (5) Likelihood and timing of any motions to stay any pending proceedings before the USPTO;
- (6) Early exchange of information to better assess the complexity and value of the case;
- (7) Identity of any related proceedings and any potential coordination and consolidation between them;
- (8) Key motions, disclosures, or document production likely to encourage early case resolution;
- (9) Sufficiency of a party's preliminary infringement contentions;
- (10) Sufficiency of a party's preliminary invalidity contentions;
- (11) Reduction in number of asserted claims;

- (12) Reduction in number of prior-art invalidity grounds;
- (13) Number of claim terms to be construed;
- (14) Early and expedited construction of one or a limited number of claim terms to facilitate early summary-judgment motions;
- (15) Representative products or processes with the goal of streamlining discovery and trial;
- (16) Non-binding estimate of the range of damages to enable the presiding judge to evaluate proportionality determinations;
- (17) A schedule for the party defending against a claim of patent infringement to decide whether it will waive attorney-client privilege and produce an opinion of an attorney as part of a defense to a claim of willful infringement;
- (18) Whether there should be a patent prosecution bar in the protective order, and to what extent such a patent prosecution bar should apply to any anticipated parallel USPTO proceedings;
- (19) The need for a technical advisor, and, if so, the selection process and duties of that advisor; and
- (20) Timing and frequency of future case management conferences.
- (c) Additional Case Management Conferences. At the initial case management conference, or from time to time as the circumstances of the case may dictate, the presiding judge may schedule additional case management conferences. In scheduling such additional case management conferences, the presiding judge and the parties can evaluate the desirability of holding, and timing of, subsequent case management conferences as follows:
  - (1) After invalidity contentions are exchanged;

- (2) After claim construction briefing is complete;
- (3) Periodically (for example, every two or three months) thereafter; and/or
- (4) When requested by a party.
- management conference, the parties shall file a joint case management conference statement identifying for the Court the issues, if any, the parties believe should be addressed at the case management conference. If the parties believe that a specific case management conference is not required, they shall so state in their joint case management conference statement. If a subsequent case management conference has not already been scheduled, the parties shall provide suggestions with respect to the best timing for the next case management conference.
- (e) Appendices. The following model orders attached to this Order as Appendices A through C are also available in Microsoft Word format on the Court's website, and are provided for adoption or modification by the parties:

Appendix A — Model Protective Order;

Appendix B — Model Order Regarding E-Discovery in Patent Cases; and

Appendix C — Model Order Focusing Patent Claims and Prior Art.

The parties are encouraged to consider and discuss these model orders. Should the parties find one or more of the model orders helpful, they are encouraged to submit it or them to the presiding judge for entry. If the parties are proposing amendments, either agreed or contested, they must submit copies of the relevant model order to the presiding judge with any modifications conspicuously identified and designating the party proposing the modifications.

#### 2-2. Confidentiality.

All documents or information produced under this Order will be governed by the terms and conditions of the protective order (see Appendix A). The protective order will be deemed automatically entered upon the filing or transfer of any civil action to which this Order applies, unless the protective order is modified by agreement of the parties or by order of the presiding judge. If the parties seek entry of a protective order not identical to the model protective order found in Appendix A, they must submit a copy of the proposed protective order to the presiding judge with any modifications conspicuously identified and designating the party proposing the modifications.

#### 2-3. Certification of Initial Disclosures.

Each statement, disclosure, or chart filed or served in accordance with this Order must be dated and signed by the attorney of record. An attorney's signature constitutes a certification that to the best of the attorney's knowledge, information, and belief, formed after an inquiry that is reasonable under the circumstances, the information contained in the statement, disclosure, or chart is complete and correct at the time it is made.

# 2-4. Admissibility of Disclosures.

Statements, disclosures, or charts governed by this Order are admissible to the extent permitted by the Federal Rules of Evidence or Civil Procedure. However, the statements or disclosures provided for in paragraphs 4-1 and 4-2 are not admissible for any purpose other than in connection with motions seeking an extension or modification of the time periods within which actions contemplated by this Order must be taken.

# 2-5. Relationship to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

- (a) Unless the presiding judge otherwise directs, the scope of discovery is not limited to the preliminary infringement contentions or preliminary invalidity contentions but is governed by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Except as provided in this paragraph or as otherwise directed by the presiding judge, it will not be a legitimate ground for objecting to an opposing party's discovery request (e.g., interrogatory, document request, request for admission, deposition question) or declining to provide information otherwise required to be disclosed under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1) that the discovery request or disclosure requirement is premature in light of, or otherwise conflicts with, this Order. A party may object to the following categories of discovery requests (or may decline to provide information in its initial disclosures under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1)) on the ground that they are premature in light of the timetable provided in this Order:
  - (1) Requests seeking to elicit a party's claim construction position;
  - (2) Requests seeking to elicit from the patent claimant a comparison of the asserted claims and the accused apparatus, product, device, process, method, act, or other instrumentality;
  - (3) Requests seeking to elicit from an accused infringer a comparison of the asserted claims and the prior art; and
  - (4) Requests seeking to elicit from an accused infringer the identification of any opinions of an attorney, and related documents, that it intends to rely upon as a defense to an allegation of willful infringement.
- **(b)** When a party properly objects to a discovery request (or declines to provide information in its initial disclosures under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1)) as set forth above, that party must provide the requested information on the date it is required to provide the requested

information to an opposing party under this Order, unless there exists another legitimate ground for objection.

# 2-6. Discovery Disputes

- (a) Additional Conference Requirements for Discovery Motions. In addition to the conference requirements of Local Rule 7.1 (Motion Practice), before filing a discovery motion, lead counsel for the moving party and lead counsel for each party affected by the requested relief must confer in a good-faith attempt to narrow or completely resolve the issues to be presented in the discovery motion. Counsel must clearly identify their positions and the supporting legal and factual support.
- (b) Shortened Briefing Schedule for Discovery Motions. A shorter briefing schedule will apply to discovery motions in cases governed by this Order. A response and brief to an opposed discovery motion must be filed within 7 days from the date the discovery motion is filed. Unless otherwise directed by the presiding judge, a party who has filed an opposed discovery motion may file a reply brief within 3 business days from the date the response is **filed.**

#### 3. PATENT INITIAL DISCLOSURES

#### 3-1. Disclosure of Asserted Claims and Preliminary Infringement Contentions.

- (a) Not later than 7 days before the initial case management conference, a party claiming patent infringement must serve on each opposing party a disclosure of asserted claims and preliminary infringement contentions, and file notice of such service with the clerk. The disclosure of asserted claims and preliminary infringement contentions must contain, separately for each opposing party, the following information:
  - (1) Each claim of each patent-in-suit that is allegedly infringed by each opposing party;

- (2) Separately for each asserted claim, each accused apparatus, product, device, process, method, act, or other instrumentality ("accused instrumentality") of each opposing party of which the party is aware. This identification must be as specific as possible. Each apparatus, product, device, or other instrumentality must be identified by name or model number, if known. Each process, method, or act must be identified by name, if known, or by any product, device, or apparatus that, when used, allegedly results in the practice of the claimed process, method, or act;
- (3) A chart identifying specifically and in detail where each element of each asserted claim is found within each accused instrumentality, including for each element that such party contends is governed by 35 U.S.C. § 112(f), the identity of each structure, act, or material in the accused instrumentality that performs the claimed function;
- (4) Whether each element of each asserted claim is claimed to be literally present or present under the doctrine of equivalents in the accused instrumentality;
- (5) For any patent that claims priority to an earlier application, the priority date to which each asserted claim allegedly is entitled; and
- (6) If a party claiming patent infringement wishes to preserve the right to rely, for any purpose, on the assertion that its own apparatus, product, device, process, method, act, or other instrumentality practices the claimed invention, the party must identify, separately for each asserted claim, each such apparatus, product, device, process, method, act, or other instrumentality that incorporates or reflects that particular claim.

**(b)** Failure to comply with the requirements of this paragraph, including the requirement of specificity and detail in contending infringement, may result in appropriate sanctions, including dismissal.

# 3-2. Document Production Accompanying Disclosure.

- (a) In addition to serving the disclosure of asserted claims and preliminary infringement contentions, the party claiming patent infringement must produce or make available for inspection and copying to each opposing party:
  - (1) Documents (e.g., contracts, purchase orders, invoices, advertisements, marketing materials, offer letters, beta site testing agreements, and third-party or joint-development agreements) sufficient to evidence any public use, offer for sale, sale, or other availability to the public of the claimed invention prior to the date of application for the patent-in-suit. A party's production of a document as required by this paragraph does not constitute an admission that the document evidences or is prior art under 35 § 102;
  - (2) All documents evidencing the conception, reduction to practice, design, and development of each claimed invention, that were created on or before the date of application for the patent-in-suit or the priority date identified under paragraph 3-1(a)(5), whichever is earlier; and
  - (3) A copy of the file history for each patent-in-suit.
- **(b)** The producing party must separately identify by production number which documents correspond to each category.

#### 3-3. Preliminary Invalidity Contentions.

- (a) Within 45 days from the date the party claiming patent infringement serves the disclosure of asserted claims and preliminary infringement contentions on all opposing parties, each party opposing a claim of patent infringement must serve on all other parties its preliminary invalidity contentions and file notice of such service with the clerk. The preliminary invalidity contentions must contain the following information:
  - claim or renders it obvious. Each prior-art patent must be identified by its number, country of origin, and date of issue. Each prior-art publication must be identified by its title, date of publication, and, when feasible, author and publisher. Prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102 that is not a patent or printed publication must be identified by specifying the item in public use, offered for sale, on sale, or otherwise available to the public before the effective filing date of the claimed invention, the date the offer or use took place or the information became available, the identity of the person or entity that made the use or made and received the offer, the person or entity that made the information available, and to whom it was made available;
  - (2) Whether each item of prior art anticipates each asserted claim or renders it obvious. If a combination of items of prior art makes a claim obvious, each such combination, and the motivation to combine such items, must be identified;
  - (3) A chart identifying, specifically and in detail, where in each alleged item of prior art each element of each asserted claim is found, including for each element that the party contends is governed by 35 U.S.C. § 112(f) the identity of the structure, act, or material in each item of prior art that performs the claimed function:

- (4) An identification of any limitation of each asserted claim that is indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112(b) or lacks enablement or written description under 35 U.S.C. § 112(a); and
- (5) An identification of any asserted claim that is directed to ineligible subject matter under 35 U.S.C. § 101.
- **(b)** Failure to comply with the requirements of this paragraph, including the requirement of specificity and detail, may result in appropriate sanctions.

# 3-4. Document Production Accompanying Preliminary Invalidity Contentions.

At the time the preliminary invalidity contentions are served on all opposing parties, the party opposing a claim of patent infringement must also produce or make available for inspection and copying to all opposing parties:

- (a) Source code, specifications, schematics, flow charts, artwork, formulas, or other documentation sufficient to show the operation of any aspects or elements of an accused instrumentality identified by the patent claimant in its paragraph 3-1(a)(3) chart; and
- (b) A copy of each item of prior art identified under paragraph 3-3(a)(1) that does not appear in the file history of each patent at issue. To the extent any such item is not in English, an English translation of each portion relied upon must be produced.

#### 3-5. Disclosure Requirement in Patent Cases for Declaratory Judgment.

(a) Invalidity Contentions If No Claim of Infringement. In all cases in which a party files a complaint or other pleading seeking a declaratory judgment that a patent is not infringed, is invalid, or is unenforceable, paragraphs 3-1 and 3-2 will not apply unless and until a claim for patent infringement is made by a party. If the defendant does not assert a claim for patent infringement in its answer to the complaint, then no later than 14 days after the defendant files its answer, or 7 days before the initial case management conference, whichever is later, the party

seeking a declaratory judgment must serve upon each opposing party its preliminary invalidity contentions that conform to paragraph 3-3 and produce or make available for inspection and copying by all opposing parties the documentation described in paragraph 3-4. The parties must meet and confer within 14 days of the service of the preliminary invalidity contentions for the purpose of determining the date the plaintiff will file its final invalidity contentions, which must be filed within 50 days from the date the presiding judge's claim construction ruling is filed.

- (b) Application of Rules When No Specified Triggering Event. If the filings or actions in a Dallas division patent case do not trigger the application of this Order, then as soon as this is known, the parties to the patent case must meet and confer for the purpose of agreeing on the application of this Order to the patent case.
- (c) Inapplicability. This paragraph does not apply to a Dallas division patent case in which a request for a declaratory judgment that a patent is not infringed, is invalid, or is unenforceable is filed in response to a complaint for infringement of the same patent.

#### 3-6. Final Contentions.

Each party's preliminary infringement contentions and preliminary invalidity contentions will be deemed to be that party's final contentions, except as set forth below.

- (a) If a party claiming patent infringement believes in good faith that the presiding judge's claim construction ruling so requires, that party may serve final infringement contentions without leave of court that amend the party's preliminary infringement contentions with respect to the information required by paragraph 3-1(a)(3) and (4) within 30 days from the date the presiding judge's claim construction ruling is filed.
- (b) Within 50 days from the date the presiding judge's claim construction ruling is filed, each party opposing a claim of patent infringement may serve its final invalidity contentions

without leave of court that amend its preliminary invalidity contentions with respect to the information required by paragraph 3-3 if:

- (1) a party claiming patent infringement has served its final infringement contentions under paragraph 3-6(a); or
- (2) the party opposing a claim of patent infringement believes in good faith that the presiding judge's claim construction ruling so requires.

#### 3-7. Amendment to Contentions.

#### (a) After Production of Source Code.

- (1) If a party claiming patent infringement asserts that a claim element is a software limitation, the party may supplement its infringement contentions within 30 days after source code for each accused instrumentality is produced by the opposing party. As part of such supplementation, the party claiming patent infringement shall identify, on an element-by-element basis for each asserted claim, what source code of each accused instrumentality allegedly satisfies the software limitations of the asserted claim elements.
- (2) If a party claiming patent infringement exercises the provisions of paragraph 3-7(a)(1), the party opposing a claim of patent infringement may serve, not later than 30 days after receipt of a paragraph 3-7(a)(1) disclosure, supplemental invalidity contentions that amend only those claim elements identified as software limitations by the party claiming patent infringement.
- (b) By Order of Presiding Judge. Amendment of the preliminary or final infringement contentions or the preliminary or final invalidity contentions, other than as expressly permitted in paragraphs 3-6 and 3-7(a), may be made only by order of the presiding judge upon a showing of good cause. Good cause for the purposes of this paragraph may include newly discovered accused instrumentalities, newly discovered bases for claiming infringement, or newly

discovered prior-art references. A party seeking amendment of the preliminary or final infringement contentions or the preliminary or final invalidity contentions must include in its motion to amend a statement that the newly discovered accused instrumentalities, newly discovered bases for claiming infringement, or newly discovered prior-art references were not known to that party prior to the motion despite diligence in seeking out same.

#### 3-8. Willfulness.

- (a) By the date established in the scheduling order, each party opposing a claim of patent infringement that will rely on an opinion of an attorney as part of a defense to a claim of willful infringement must:
  - (1) Produce or make available for inspection and copying each opinion and any other documents relating to the opinion as to which the party agrees the attorney-client or work-product protection has been waived; and
  - (2) Serve a privilege log identifying any other documents, except those authored by an attorney acting solely as trial counsel, relating to the subject matter of the opinion the party is withholding on the grounds of attorney-client privilege or work-product protection.
- (b) A party opposing a claim of patent infringement who does not comply with the requirements of this paragraph will not be permitted to rely on an opinion of an attorney as part of a defense to willful infringement absent a stipulation of all parties or by order of the presiding judge upon a showing of good cause.

## 4. CLAIM CONSTRUCTION PROCEEDINGS

## 4-1. Exchange of Proposed Terms and Claim Elements for Construction.

(a) Not later than 14 days after service of the preliminary invalidity contentions under paragraph 3-3, each party must simultaneously exchange a list of claim terms, phrases, or clauses

that the party contends should be construed by the presiding judge, and any claim element that the party contends should be governed by 35 U.S.C. § 112(0.

**(b)** After exchanging this list, the parties must meet and confer for the purposes of finalizing a combined list, narrowing or resolving differences, and facilitating the ultimate preparation of a joint claim construction and prehearing statement.

# 4-2. Exchange of Preliminary Claim Constructions and Extrinsic Evidence.

- (a) Not later than 21 days after the exchange of lists under paragraph 4-1(a), the parties must simultaneously exchange a preliminary proposed construction of each claim term, phrase, or clause that the parties collectively have identified for claim construction purposes, and must also identify each structure, act, or material corresponding to each claim element that the parties collectively contend is governed by 35 U.S.C. § 112(0.
- (b) At the same time the parties exchange their respective preliminary claim constructions, they must each also exchange a preliminary identification of extrinsic evidence, including, without limitation, dictionary definitions, citations to learned treatises and prior art, and testimony of percipient and expert witnesses they contend support their respective claim constructions. The parties must identify each item of extrinsic evidence by production number or produce a copy of any such item not previously produced. With respect to any percipient or expert witness, the parties must also provide a brief description of the substance of that witness's proposed testimony.
- (c) The parties must thereafter meet and confer for the purposes of narrowing the issues and **finalizing** preparation of a joint claim construction and prehearing statement.

#### 4-3. Joint Claim Construction and Prehearing Statement.

- (a) Not later than 7 days after the service of the parties' preliminary claim constructions and extrinsic evidence under paragraph 4-2, the parties must complete and **file** a joint claim construction and prehearing statement that contains the following information:
  - (1) The construction of those claim terms, phrases, or clauses on which the parties agree;
  - (2) Each party's proposed claim construction or indefiniteness position for each disputed claim term, phrase, or clause, together with an identification of all references from the specification or prosecution history that support that position, and an identification of any extrinsic evidence known to the party on which the party intends to rely, either to support its position or to oppose any other party's position, including, but not limited to, as permitted by law, dictionary definitions, citations to learned treatises and prior art, and testimony of percipient and expert witnesses;
  - (3) The anticipated length of time necessary for the claim construction hearing;
  - (4) Whether any party proposes to call one or more witnesses, including experts, at the claim construction hearing and the identity of each witness;
  - (5) Proposed order of presentation at the claim construction hearing; and
  - (6) A list of any other issues that might appropriately be taken up at a prehearing conference prior to the claim construction hearing, and, if not previously set, proposed dates for any such prehearing conference.
- (b) Each party shall also simultaneously serve a disclosure of expert testimony consistent with Fed. **R. Civ.** P. 26(a)(2)(B) or 26(a)(2)(C), as applicable, for any expert on which

it intends to rely to support its proposed claim construction or indefiniteness positions or to oppose any other party's proposed claim construction or indefiniteness positions.

### 4-4. Completion of Claim Construction Discovery.

Within 30 days from the date the joint claim construction and prehearing statement is **filed**, the parties must complete all discovery relating to claim construction, including any depositions with respect to claim construction of any witnesses, including experts, identified in the joint claim construction and prehearing statement.

#### 4-5. Claim Construction Briefs.

- (a) Within 45 days from the date the joint claim construction and prehearing statement is filed, each party claiming patent infringement must serve and file a claim construction brief and any evidence supporting its claim construction. The requirements of Local Rule 7.2 apply to such briefs, except that, excluding the table of contents and table of authorities, the length of a brief must not exceed 30 pages. By order or other appropriate notice issued in the case, the presiding judge may restrict the length of a brief to fewer than 30 pages, or, for good cause, may enlarge the length of a brief.
- (b) Each party opposing a claim of patent infringement may serve and file a responsive brief and supporting evidence within 14 days from the date the opposing party's claim construction brief is filed. The requirements of Local Rule 7.2 apply to such briefs, except that the length of a brief must not exceed 30 pages (excluding the table of contents and table of authorities). By order or other appropriate notice issued in the case, the presiding judge may restrict the length of a brief to fewer than 30 pages, or, for good cause, may enlarge the length of a brief.
- (c) Each party claiming patent infringement may serve and file a reply brief within 7 days from the date the opposing party's responsive claim construction brief is filed. The requirements of Local Rule 7.2 apply to such briefs, except that the length of a brief must not

exceed 15 pages (excluding the table of contents and table of authorities). By order or other appropriate notice issued in the case, the presiding judge may restrict the length of a brief to fewer than 15 pages, or, for good cause, may enlarge the length of a brief. Unless the presiding judge otherwise directs, no further claim construction briefing will be permitted.

- (d) Within 10 days of the claim construction hearing scheduled under paragraph 4-6, the parties must jointly submit a claim construction chart as the presiding judge may direct.
  - (1) The claim construction chart must have a column listing the complete language of disputed claims with disputed terms in bold type and separate columns for each party's proposed construction of each disputed term. The chart must also include a fourth column entitled "Judge's Construction," that is otherwise left blank. Additionally, the chart must direct the presiding judge's attention to each patent and claim number where a disputed term appears.
  - (2) The parties may also include constructions for claim terms to which they have agreed. If the parties choose to include agreed constructions, each party's proposed construction columns must state "[AGREED]," and the agreed construction must be inserted in the "Judge's Construction" column.
  - (3) The purpose of this claim construction chart is to assist the presiding judge and the parties in tracking and resolving disputed terms. Accordingly, aside from the requirements set forth in this Order, the parties are afforded substantial latitude in the chart's format so that they may fashion a chart that most clearly and efficiently outlines the disputed terms and proposed constructions. Appendices to the presiding judge's prior published and unpublished claim construction opinions may provide helpful guidelines for parties fashioning claim construction charts.

# 4-6. Claim Construction Hearing.

Subject to the convenience of the presiding judge's calendar, 2 weeks after the responsive briefs under paragraph 4-5(b) have been filed, the presiding judge will conduct a claim construction hearing, to the extent the parties or the presiding judge believe a claim construction hearing is necessary for construction of the claims at issue.

The clerk is directed to make appropriate distribution of this Order.

SO ORDERED.

September 10, 2019

BABA; RAM. G. LY NN

CgIEF JUDGE

#### **APPENDIX A**

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

Plaintiff, \$

v. \$ Case No.

Befendant. \$

# [MODEL] PROTECTIVE ORDER

# **Proceedings and Information Governed.**

1. This Order ("Protective Order") is made under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c). It governs any document, information, or other thing furnished by any party to any other party, and it includes any nonparty who receives a subpoena in connection with this action. The information protected includes, but is not limited to: answers to interrogatories; answers to requests for admission; responses to requests for production of documents; deposition transcripts and videotapes; deposition exhibits; and other documents or things produced, given, or filed in this action that are designated by a party as "Confidential Information" or "Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information" in accordance with the terms of this Protective Order, as well as to any copies, excerpts, abstracts, analyses, summaries, descriptions, or other forms of recorded information containing, reflecting, or disclosing such information.

#### **Designation and Maintenance of Information.**

2. For purposes of this Protective Order, (a) the "Confidential Information" designation means that the document is comprised of trade secrets or commercial information that is not publicly known and is of technical or commercial advantage to its possessor, in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c)(7), or other information required by law or agreement to be kept confidential,

and (b) the "Confidential Attorney Eyes Only" designation means that the document is comprised of information that the producing party deems especially sensitive, which may include, but is not limited to, confidential research and development, financial, technical, marketing, or any other sensitive trade-secret information, or information capable of being utilized for the preparation or prosecution of a patent application dealing with such subject matter. Confidential Information and Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information does not include, and this Protective Order does not apply to, information that is already in the knowledge or possession of the party to whom disclosure is made unless that party is already bound by agreement not to disclose such information, or information that has been disclosed to the public or third persons in a manner making such information no longer confidential.

3. Documents and things produced during the course of this litigation within the scope of paragraph 2(a) above, may be designated by the producing party as containing Confidential Information by placing on each page and each thing a legend substantially as follows:

# CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER

Documents and things produced during the course of this litigation within the scope of paragraph 2(b) above may be designated by the producing party as containing Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information by placing on each page and each thing a legend substantially as follows:

# CONFIDENTIAL ATTORNEY EYES ONLY INFORMATION SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER

A party may designate information disclosed at a deposition as Confidential Information or Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information by requesting the reporter to so designate the transcript or any portion of the transcript at the time of the deposition. If no such designation is made at the time of the deposition, any party will have fourteen (14) calendar days after the date of the deposition to designate, in writing to the other parties and to the court reporter, whether any portion of the transcript is to be designated as Confidential Information or Confidential Attorneys Eyes Only Information. If no such designation is made at the deposition or within this fourteen (14) calendar day period (during which period, the transcript must be treated as Confidential Attorneys Eyes Only Information, unless the disclosing party consents to less confidential treatment of the information), the entire deposition will be considered devoid of Confidential Information or Confidential Attorneys Eyes Only Information. Each party and the court reporter must attach a copy of any final and timely written designation notice to the transcript and each copy of the transcript in its possession, custody or control, and the portions designated in such notice must thereafter be treated in accordance with this Protective Order. It is the responsibility of counsel for each party to maintain materials containing Confidential Information or Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information in a secure manner and appropriately identified so as to allow access to such information only to such persons and under such terms as is permitted under this Protective Order.

## **Inadvertent Failure to Designate.**

4. The inadvertent failure to designate or withhold any information as confidential or privileged will not be deemed to waive a later claim as to its confidential or privileged nature, or to stop the producing party from designating such information as confidential at a later date in writing and with particularity. The information must be treated by the receiving party as confidential from the time the receiving party is notified in writing of the change in the designation.

#### **Challenge to Designations.**

5. A receiving party may challenge a producing party's designation at any time. Any receiving party disagreeing with a designation may request in writing that the producing party change the designation. The producing party will then have ten (10) business days after receipt of a challenge notice to advise the receiving party whether or not it will change the designation. If the parties are unable to reach agreement after the expiration of this ten (10) business day time frame, and after the conference required under Local Rule 7.1(a), the receiving party may at any time thereafter seek an order to alter the confidential status of the designated information. Until any dispute under this paragraph is ruled upon by the presiding judge, the designation will remain in full force and effect, and the information will continue to be accorded the confidential treatment required by this Protective Order.

# Disclosure and Use of Confidential Information.

- 6. Information designated as Confidential Information or Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information may only be used for purposes of preparation, trial, and appeal of this action. Confidential Information or Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information may not be used under any circumstances for prosecuting any patent application, for patent licensing, or for any other purpose.
- 7. Subject to paragraph 9 below, Confidential Information may be disclosed by the receiving party only to the following individuals, provided that such individuals are informed of the terms of this Protective Order:

- (a) two (2) employees of the receiving party who are required in good faith to provide assistance in the conduct of this litigation, including any settlement discussions, and who are identified as such in writing to counsel for the designating party in advance of the disclosure;
- (b) two (2) in-house counsel for the receiving party who are identified as such in writing to counsel for the designating party in advance of the disclosure;
  - (c) outside counsel for the receiving party;
- (d) supporting personnel employed by (b) and (c), such as paralegals, legal secretaries, data-entry clerks, legal clerks, and private photocopying and litigation support services;
  - (e) experts or consultants; and
- (f) any persons requested by counsel to furnish services such as document coding, image scanning, mock trial, jury profiling, translation services, court-reporting services, demonstrative-exhibit preparation, or the creation of any computer database from documents.
- 8. Subject to paragraph 9 below, Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information may be disclosed by the receiving party only to the following individuals, provided that such individuals are informed of the terms of this Protective Order:
  - (a) outside counsel for the receiving party;
- (b) supporting personnel employed by outside counsel, such as paralegals, legal secretaries, data-entry clerks, legal clerks, private photocopying and litigation support services;
  - (c) experts or consultants; and
  - (d) those individuals designated in paragraph 11(c).
- 9. Further, prior to disclosing Confidential Information or Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information to a receiving party's proposed expert, consultant, or employees, the receiving party must provide to the producing party a signed Confidentiality Agreement in the form attached as

Exhibit A, the resume or curriculum vitae of the proposed expert or consultant, the expert or consultant's business affiliation, and any current and past consulting relationships in the industry. The producing party will thereafter have ten (10) business days from receipt of the Confidentiality Agreement to object to any proposed individual. The objection must be made for good cause and in writing, stating with particularity the reasons for the objection. Failure to object within ten (10) business days constitutes approval. If the parties are unable to resolve any objection, the receiving party may file a motion to resolve the matter. There will be no disclosure to any proposed individual during the ten (10) business day objection period, unless that period is waived by the producing party, or if any objection is made, until the parties have resolved the objection, or the presiding judge has ruled upon any resultant motion.

- 10. Counsel is responsible for the adherence by third-party vendors to the terms and conditions of this Protective Order. Counsel may fulfill this obligation by obtaining a signed Confidentiality Agreement in the form attached as Exhibit B.
- 11. Confidential Information or Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information may be disclosed to a person who is not already allowed access to such information under this Protective Order if:
- (a) the information was previously received or authored by the person or was authored or received by a director, officer, employee, or agent of the company for which the person is testifying as a designee under Fed. R. Civ. P. 30(b)(6);
- (b) the person is the designating party, or is a director, officer, employee, consultant, or agent of the designating party; or
- (c) counsel for the party designating the material agrees that the material may be disclosed to the person.

In the event of disclosure under this paragraph, only the reporter, the person, his or her counsel, the presiding judge, and persons to whom disclosure may otherwise be made under and who are bound by this Protective Order, may be present during the disclosure or discussion of the Confidential Information or Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information. Disclosure of material pursuant to this paragraph does not constitute a waiver of the confidential status of the material so disclosed.

# **Nonparty Information.**

12. The existence of this Protective Order must be disclosed to any person producing documents, tangible things, or testimony in this action who may reasonably be expected to desire confidential treatment for such documents, tangible things, or testimony. Any such person may designate documents, tangible things, or testimony confidential pursuant to this Protective Order.

## Filing Documents With the Court.

- 13. If any party wishes to submit Confidential Information or Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information to the Court, the submission must be filed using the *Sealed* and/or *Ex Parte Motion* event. The word "*Sealed*" must appear in the title or caption of any document intended for filing under seal (and any proposed order you believe should be filed under seal if entered by the judge).
- 14. Producing or receiving Confidential Information or Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information, or otherwise complying with the terms of this Protective Order, will not (a) operate as an admission by any party that any particular Confidential Information or Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information contains or reflects trade secrets or any other type of confidential or proprietary information; (b) prejudice the rights of a party to object to the production of information or material that the party does not consider to be within the scope of discovery;

(c) prejudice the rights of a party to seek a determination by the presiding judge that particular materials be produced; (d) prejudice the rights of a party to apply to the presiding judge for further protective orders; or (e) prevent the parties from agreeing in writing to alter or waive the provisions or protections provided for in this Protective Order with respect to any particular information or material.

# **Conclusion of Litigation.**

15. Within sixty (60) calendar days after final judgment in this action, including the exhaustion of all appeals, or within sixty (60) calendar days after dismissal pursuant to a settlement agreement, each party or other person subject to the terms of this Protective Order is under an obligation to destroy or return to the producing party all materials and documents containing Confidential Information or Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information, and to certify to the producing party that this destruction or return has been done. However, outside counsel for any party is entitled to retain all court papers, trial transcripts, exhibits, and attorney work provided that any such materials are maintained and protected in accordance with the terms of this Protective Order.

# Other Proceedings.

16. By entering this Protective Order and limiting the disclosure of information in this case, the presiding judge does not intend to preclude another court from finding that information may be relevant and subject to disclosure in another case. Any person or party subject to this Protective Order who may be subject to a motion to disclose another party's information designated Confidential Information or Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information pursuant to this Protective Order must promptly notify that party of the motion so that the party may have an opportunity to appear and be heard on whether that information should be disclosed.

# Remedies.

17. It is Ordered that this Protective Order will be enforced by the sanctions set forth in Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b) and any other sanctions as may be available to the presiding judge, including the power to hold parties or other violators of this Protective Order in contempt. All other remedies available to any person injured by a violation of this Protective Order are fully reserved.

18. Any party may petition the presiding judge for good cause shown if the party desires relief from a term or condition of this Protective Order.

Exhibit A

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

Plaintiff, v. Defendant. )) Civil Action No.

CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT FOR EXPERT, CONSULTANT OR EMPLOYEES OF ANY PARTY

I hereby affirm that:

Information, including documents and things, designated as "Confidential Information," or "Confidential Attorney Eyes

Only Information," as defined in the Protective Order entered in the above-captioned action ("Protective Order"), is

being provided to me pursuant to the terms and restrictions of the Protective Order.

I have been given a copy of and have read the Protective Order.

I am familiar with the terms of the Protective Order and I agree to comply with and to be bound by its terms.

I submit to the jurisdiction of this Court for enforcement of the Protective Order.

I agree not to use any Confidential Information or Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information disclosed to me

pursuant to the Protective Order except for purposes of the above-captioned litigation and not to disclose any of this

information to persons other than those specifically authorized by the Protective Order, without the express written

consent of the party who designated the information as confidential or by order of the presiding judge. I also agree to

notify any stenographic, clerical or technical personnel who are required to assist me of the terms of this Protective

Order and of its binding effect on them and me.

I understand that I am to retain all documents or materials designated as or containing Confidential Information or

Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information in a secure manner, and that all such documents and materials are to

remain in my personal custody until the completion of my assigned duties in this matter, whereupon all such documents

and materials, including all copies thereof, and any writings prepared by me containing any Confidential Information or

Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information are to be returned to counsel who provided me with such documents and

materials.

#### Exhibit B

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

Plaintiff, v. Defendant. )) Civil Action No.

#### CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT FOR THIRD-PARTY VENDORS

I hereby affirm that:

Information, including documents and things, designated as "Confidential Information," or "Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information," as defined in the Protective Order entered in the above-captioned action ("Protective Order"), is being provided to me pursuant to the terms and restrictions of the Protective Order.

I have been given a copy of and have read the Protective Order.

I am familiar with the terms of the Protective Order and I agree to comply with and to be bound by its terms. I submit to the jurisdiction of this Court for enforcement of the Protective Order.

I agree not to use any Confidential Information or Confidential Attorney Eyes Only Information disclosed to me pursuant to the Protective Order except for purposes of the above-captioned litigation and not to disclose any of this information to persons other than those specifically authorized by the Protective Order, without the express written consent of the party who designated the information as confidential or by order of the presiding judge.

#### APPENDIX B

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

Plaintiff,

v. Case No.

Defendant.

#### [MODEL] ORDER REGARDING E-DISCOVERY IN PATENT CASES

The Court ORDERS as follows:

- 1. This order supplements all other discovery rules and orders. It is intended to streamline production of Electronically Stored Information ("ESP) to promote a "just, speedy, and inexpensive determination" of this action, as required by Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 2. A party's meaningful compliance with this order and efforts to promote efficiency and reduce costs will be considered in cost-shifting determinations.
- 3. Absent a showing of good cause, general ESI production requests under Rules 34 and 45 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, or compliance with a mandatory disclosure requirement of this Court, shall not include metadata. However, fields showing the date and time that the document was sent and received, as well as the complete distribution list, shall generally be included in the production if such fields exist.
- 4. Absent agreement of the parties or further order of this Court, the following parameters shall apply to ESI production:
  - A. **General Document Image Format.** Each electronic document shall be produced in single-page Tagged Image File Format ("TIFF") format. TIFF files shall be

single page and shall be named with a unique production number followed by the appropriate file extension. Load files shall be provided to indicate the location and unitization of the TIFF files. If a document is more than one page, the unitization of the document and any attachments and/or affixed notes shall be maintained as they existed in the original document.

- **B.** Text-Searchable Documents. No party has an obligation to make its production text-searchable; however, if a party's documents already exist in text-searchable format independent of this litigation, or are converted to text-searchable format for use in this litigation, including for use by the producing party's counsel, then such documents shall be produced in the same text-searchable format at no cost to the receiving party.
- **C. Footer.** Each document image shall contain a footer with a sequentially ascending production number.
- **D.** Native Files. A party that receives a document produced in a format specified above may make a reasonable request to receive the document in its native format, and upon receipt of such a request, the producing party shall produce the document in its native format.
- **E. No Backup Restoration Required.** Absent a showing of good cause, no party need restore any form of media upon which backup data is maintained in a party's normal or allowed processes, including but not limited to backup tapes, disks, SAN, and other forms of media, to comply with its discovery obligations in the present case.

- F. **Voicemail and Mobile Devices.** Absent a showing of good cause, voicemails, PDAs, and mobile phones are deemed not reasonably accessible and need not be collected and preserved.
- 5. General ESI production requests under Rules 34 and 45 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, or compliance with a mandatory disclosure order of this Court, shall not include email or other forms of electronic correspondence (collectively "email"). To obtain email, parties must propound specific email production requests.
- 6. Email production requests shall be phased to occur timely after the parties have exchanged (1) initial disclosures, (2) a specific listing of likely email custodians, (3) a specific identification of the ten most significant listed email custodians in view of the pleaded claims and defenses,/ (4) infringement contentions and accompanying documents pursuant to Miscellaneous Order No. 62 paragraphs 3-1 and 3-2, (5) invalidity contentions and accompanying documents pursuant to Miscellaneous Order No. 62 paragraphs 3-3 and 3-4, and (6) preliminary information relevant to damages. The exchange of this information shall occur at the time required under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Local Rules, Miscellaneous Order No. 62, or by order of the Court. Each requesting party may also propound up to five written discovery requests and take one deposition per producing party to identify the proper custodians, proper search terms, and proper time frame for email production requests. The Court may allow additional discovery upon a showing of good cause.
- 7. Email production requests shall identify the custodian, search terms, **and** time frame. The parties shall cooperate to identify the proper custodians, proper search terms, and

A "specific identification" requires a short description of why the custodian is believed to be significant.

proper time frame. Each requesting party shall limit its email production requests to a total of five custodians per producing party for all such requests. The parties may jointly agree to modify this limit without the Court's leave. The Court shall consider contested requests for additional or fewer custodians per producing party, upon a showing of a distinct need based on the size, complexity, and issues of this specific case.

- 8. Each requesting party shall limit its email production requests to a total often search terms per custodian per party. The parties may jointly agree to modify this limit without the Court's leave. The Court shall consider contested requests for additional or fewer search terms per custodian, upon a showing of a distinct need based on the size, complexity, and issues of this specific case. The search terms shall be narrowly tailored to particular issues. Indiscriminate terms, such as the producing company's name or its product name, are inappropriate unless combined with narrowing search criteria that sufficiently reduce the risk of overproduction. A conjunctive combination of multiple words or phrases (e.g., "computer" and "system") narrows the search and shall count as a single search term. A disjunctive combination of multiple words or phrases (e.g., "computer" or "system") broadens the search, and thus each word or phrase shall count as a separate search term unless the words or phrases are variants of the same word or phrase. Use of narrowing search criteria (e.g., "and," "but not," "w/x") is encouraged to limit the production and shall be considered when determining whether to shift costs for disproportionate discovery.
- 9. Pursuant to Rule 502(d) of the Federal Rules of Evidence, the inadvertent production of privileged or work-product-protected documents or ESI does not constitute a waiver in the pending case or in any other federal or state proceeding.
- 10. The mere production of documents or ESI in a litigation as part of a mass production shall not itself constitute a waiver for any purpose.

11.	Except as expressly stated, nothing in this Order affects the parties' discovery	
obligations under the Federal Rules, Local Rules, or Miscellaneous Order No. 62.		

#### APPENDIX C

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

Plaintiff,	
v.	Case No.

Defendant.

# [MODEL] ORDER FOCUSING PATENT CLAIMS AND PRIOR ART

The Court ORDERS' as follows:

1. This Order supplements all other discovery rules and orders. It is intended to streamline the issues in this case to promote a "just, speedy, and inexpensive determination" of this action, as provided by Rule 1 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

#### Phased Limits on Asserted Claims and Prior-Art References

2. By the date set for completion of claim-construction discovery pursuant to Miscellaneous Order No. 62 paragraph 4-4, the party claiming patent infringement shall serve a preliminary election of asserted claims, which shall assert no more than 10 claims from each patent and no more than a total of 32 claims. Not later than 14 days after service of the preliminary election of asserted claims, the party opposing a claim of patent infringement shall serve a

1

The parties are encouraged to discuss limits lower than those set forth in this Order based on case-specific factors such as commonality among asserted patents, the number and diversity of accused products, the complexity of the technology, the complexity of the patent claims, and the complexity and number of other issues in the case that will be presented to the judge and/or jury. In general, the more patents that are in the case, the lower the per-patent limits should be. In cases involving several patent families, diverse technologies, disparate claims within a patent, or other unique circumstances, absent agreement of the parties, the Court will consider expanding the limits on asserted claims or prior-art references.

preliminary election of asserted prior art, which shall assert no more than 12 prior-art references against each patent and no more than a total of 40 references.<sup>2</sup>

- 3. No later than 28 days before the service of expert reports by the party with the burden of proof on an issue, the party claiming patent infringement shall serve a final election of asserted claims, which shall identify no more than 5 asserted claims per patent from among the 10 previously identified claims and no more than a total of 16 claims. By the date set for the service of expert reports by the party with the burden of proof on an issue, the party opposing a claim of patent infringement shall serve a final election of asserted prior art, which shall identify no more than 6 asserted prior-art references per patent from among the 12 prior-art references previously identified for that particular patent and no more than a total of 20 references. For purposes of this final election of asserted prior art, each obviousness combination counts as a separate prior-art reference.
- 4. If the party claiming patent infringement asserts infringement of only one patent, all per-patent limits in this Order are increased by 50%. rounding up.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For purposes of this Order, a prior-art instrumentality (such as a device or process) and associated references that describe that instrumentality shall count as one reference, as shall the closely related work of a single prior artist.