

## **INITIAL STATUS REPORT**

This case has been assigned to the calendar of Judge John Robert Blakey. The parties are directed to meet pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f) and conduct a planning conference. Thereafter, and at least four business days before the initial status conference set in this case, the parties shall jointly prepare and file an initial status report, containing the following information:

### 1. **The Nature of the Case**

- a. Identify the attorneys of record for each party, including the lead trial attorney.
- b. State the basis for federal jurisdiction and, if diversity, state the domicile of all parties.
- c. Describe the nature of the claims asserted in the complaint and any counterclaims.
- d. State the major legal and factual issues anticipated in the case.
- e. Describe the relief sought by the plaintiff(s).

### 2. **Pending Motions and Case Plan**

- a. Identify all pending motions.
- b. Submit a proposal for discovery and a case management plan, including the following information:
  - (1) The general type of discovery needed, including any potential electronic discovery or bifurcated discovery;
  - (2) A date for Rule 26(a)(1) disclosures;
  - (3) A date to issue written discovery;
  - (4) The need for, and content of, any proposed protective orders (in accordance with the Local Rules for the Northern District of Illinois);
  - (5) A fact discovery completion date;
  - (6) Whether there will be expert discovery, and, if so, an expert discovery completion date (including expert disclosures and depositions);
  - (7) A date for the filing of dispositive motions; and
  - (8) A tentative trial date.
- c. With respect to trial, indicate whether a jury trial is requested and the probable length of trial.

3. **Consent to Proceed Before a Magistrate Judge**

Indicate whether the parties consent unanimously to proceed before a Magistrate Judge. Every case has an assigned Magistrate Judge, and in civil cases the parties may consent to have the assigned Magistrate Judge preside over the entire case including trial. In many cases, consent to refer the entire case to the Magistrate Judge may offer significant efficiencies and greater certainty in scheduling the trial. All counsel in civil cases should inform their clients of this option and discuss it with opposing counsel.

4. **Status of Settlement Discussions**

- a. Indicate whether any settlement discussions have occurred;
- b. Describe the status of any settlement discussions; and
- c. Indicate whether the parties request a settlement conference.