## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS MARSHALL DIVISION

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§ 2:16-cv-00992-JRG
LEAD CASE
§ 2:16-cv-00991-JRG

Defendants.

## **ORDER**

Before the Court is the Parties Joint Motion to Consolidate Cases (Dkt. No. 42) ("the Motion"). Having considered the Motion, the Court is of the opinion that it should be **GRANTED**.

It is hereby **ORDERED** that the above-captioned case (Case No. 2:16-cv-991) be **CONSOLIDATED** for all pretrial issues (except venue) with the LEAD CASE (Case No. 2:16-cv-00992). All parties are instructed to file any future filings (except relating to venue) in the LEAD CASE. Individual cases remain active for venue determinations and trial.

Defendants in Case No. 2:16-cv-00991-JRG shall be permitted, until May 8, 2017, to supplement the invalidity contentions already served in the Lead Case. All parties to the Lead Case are directed to meet and confer to determine whether the docket control order, proposed protective order, proposed discovery order, and/or appointment of mediator in the Lead Case warrant further amendment because of the new consolidation. Any proposed amendments to the docket control order, proposed protective order, proposed discovery order, proposed discovery order, or appointment of a mediator shall be filed within two weeks of this Order.

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consolidated case. To further promote judicial economy and to conserve the parties' resources, the Court encourages the parties to file a notice with the Court in the event that there are other related cases currently pending on the Court's docket that may also be appropriate for consolidation with this case.

The Clerk is instructed to add the consolidated defendants into the Lead Case and their corresponding Lead and Local Counsel only. Additional counsel may file a Notice of Appearance in the Lead Case if they wish to continue as counsel of record in the lead consolidated action. Counsel who has appeared *pro hac vice* in any member case may file a Notice of Appearance in the Lead Case without filing an additional application to appear *pro hac vice* in the Lead Case. Counsel who have not appeared in a member case at the point when it is consolidated into the Lead Case should file a Notice of Appearance only in the Lead Case, and such Notice should state the relevant member case.

## So ORDERED and SIGNED this 4th day of May, 2017.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE