**in the unITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT**

**for the DISTRICT OF MARYLAND**

**AT GREENBELT**

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| In re:  ,  Debtor. |  | Case Number: -MCR  Chapter |
| ,  Plaintiff,  v.  ,  Defendant. |  | Adversary Number: -MCR |

**JOINT RULE 26(f) REPORT**

Plaintiff and Defendant (collectively, the “Parties”) submit this joint report pursuant to Rule 26(f) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, made applicable in this proceeding pursuant to Rule 7026 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure. References to “Rule” in this report shall mean the identified rule in the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure unless otherwise stated.

INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY PARTIES

Conference of the Parties. The Parties conferred on as required by Rule 26(f).

Requested Deadlines. The Parties request that the following deadlines be included in the Scheduling Order to be entered by the Court:

a. Deadline to complete all discovery: within days of entry of a Scheduling Order by the Court;

b. Deadline to make disclosures required by Rule 26(a)(2) and to exchange expert reports, if any: within days of entry of a Scheduling Order by the Court; and

c. Deadline to file and serve dispositive motions: within days of entry of a Scheduling Order by the Court.

Estimated Length of Trial. The Parties estimate that the time required to try this case will be days.

STIPULATIONS OF THE PARTIES

Changes to Rule 26(f). Any changes to the timing, form or requirement for disclosures under Rule 26 are set forth in this Joint Rule 26(f) Report.

Discovery, in General. The subjects on which discovery may be needed are set forth in the allegations of the complaint, any counterclaim and any crossclaim filed in this adversary proceeding. Discovery will not be conducted in phases or otherwise be limited to or focused on particular issues.

Initial Disclosures. The Parties will serve all disclosures required by Rule 26(a)(1) within the time set forth in Rule 26(a)(1)(C) and (D).

Supplementation of Discovery Responses. The Parties will supplement their discovery responses in accordance with Rule 26(e) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

Disclosure or Discovery of Electronically Stored Information. The Parties have considered electronically stored information (“ESI”) in this case, the nature of the claims, the amount in controversy, the relative ability of the Parties to conduct discovery of ESI, the apparent expenses to the Parties, the time that has passed since the time period apparently in controversy, and other relevant factors. Disclosure or discovery of ESI will be handled as follows: (a) at this time no forensic clones of any hard drives or other electronic storage media are required; (b) the Parties may continue to use their computers and electronic storage media in the ordinary course of their business and personal financial matters; (c) the Parties shall not knowingly or intentionally destroy any ESI relevant to this case from the time period January 1, 2010 through the conclusion of this case; the Parties recognize that their searches for documents for this litigation may reset dates and meta-data; and the Parties need neither change nor ascertain their existing computer ESI deletion or overwriting programs, but may not change them without confirming that the change will not cause more deletions or overwriting than the current programs; (d) if any forensic clones are requested hereafter, the cost of such cloning shall be borne by the Party making the request; and (e) ESI shall be searched by the Party responding to discovery in accordance with the discovery rules and copies of responsive documents shall be produced in paper copy, TIFF, PDF format, or such other format as the Parties hereafter agree.

Claims of Privilege or Protection as Trial-Preparation Materials. At present, the Parties do not anticipate any issues regarding claims of privilege or protection as trial-preparation materials. The Parties have considered Rule 502 of the Federal Rules of Evidence and agree that the disclosure of any attorney-client, work product or other privileged information shall be deemed inadvertent and not a waiver of any privilege and that such privileged information shall not be used for any purpose.

Limitations on Discovery. The Parties do not seek to make changes to the limitations on discovery imposed under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure or the Local Bankruptcy Rules.

Other Orders for the Court to Issue. The Parties request that the Court issue a Scheduling Order consistent with the terms set forth in this Joint Rule 26(f) Report. At present, the Parties do not seek entry of any other orders under Rule 26(c) or under Rule 16(b) and (c).

Exhibits and Witnesses. Each Party understands that it must pre-file its witness list, exhibit list and all exhibits (except those to be used solely for rebuttal purposes) as set forth below and in Local Bankruptcy Rule 7016-1(c). Each Party also understands that any exhibit that is not pre-filed may be excluded from evidence.

1. If a Party chooses to pre-file its witness list, exhibit list and all exhibits electronically, then the Party will file the witness list and the exhibit list on the Court’s docket using CM/ECF and will attach the exhibits to the exhibit list with each exhibit appearing as a separate attachment and each exhibit labelled and numbered. The Parties understand that the Court prefers that they submit their witness list, exhibit list and exhibits electronically.
2. If a Party chooses to pre-file its witness list, exhibit list and all exhibits in hard (paper) copies, then the Party will deliver an original and two (2) copies of each to the Court. Each set of pre-filed exhibits will be bound or affixed together and will begin with the exhibit list identifying each exhibit by number. Each exhibit will be tabbed by exhibit number. The Parties understand that the Court prefers double-sided copies of exhibits. Binder size will not exceed four (4) inches in width (using additional binders, if necessary, and avoiding overstuffing binders so pages can turn easily), and each exhibit binder will begin with an exhibit list identifying each exhibit by number. Each Party must furnish a complete copy of the witness list, exhibit list and all exhibits to each other Party to the adversary proceeding.

Use of Deposition Transcripts. A Party’s pre-filed exhibits shall include any portion of a deposition transcript that will be offered by the Party in its case in chief, and the Party must identify the witness, date and line and page references in the deposition transcript that the Party intends to offer. Any other Party must make a counter-designation of other parts of the deposition transcript to be offered, as set forth in Fed. R. Civ. P. 32(a)(6), within the time set forth in the Scheduling Order.

Objections to Exhibits and Witnesses. If the opposing Party does not file timely written objections to pre-filed exhibits and witnesses by the time specified in the Scheduling Order, the exhibits may be admitted into evidence if offered and the witnesses may be allowed to testify if called.

Pretrial Statements. If this proceeding cannot be resolved on dispositive motions or by agreement of the Parties, each Party will file a pretrial statement within the time set forth in the Scheduling Order. The pretrial statement shall comply with Local Bankruptcy Rule 7016-1(b).

Settlement. The Parties will continue to discuss settlement and to engage in settlement discussions in good faith.

Consent to Entry of Final Orders and Judgments by Bankruptcy Judge. The Parties consent to entry of final orders and judgments by the presiding bankruptcy judge on all claims, core matters and non-core matters in this adversary proceeding.

Conflicts among the Local Bankruptcy Rules, this Joint Rule 26(f) Report and the Court’s Scheduling Order. To the extent there is a conflict among the Local Bankruptcy Rules, the terms of this Joint Rule 26(f) Report and any Scheduling Order issued by the Court, the terms of the Scheduling Order shall govern.

Dated:

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| Attorney Name and Bar Number  Firm Name  Mailing Address  City, State and Zip Code  Telephone Number  Email Address  *Counsel for Plaintiff* | Attorney Name and Bar Number  Firm Name  Mailing Address  City, State and Zip Code  Telephone Number  Email Address  *Counsel for Defendant* |

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, on , I served a copy of the foregoing Joint Rule 26(f) Report on the following by first class mail, postage prepaid:

Name of Interested Party

Mailing Address

City, State and Zip Code

Name