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8	IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE	E STATE OF WASHINGTON
9	IN AND FOR THE CO	UNTY OF KING
10	IN RE:	NO. 89-2-18455-9
11	KING COUNTY ASBESTOS CASES	REVISED CONSOLIDATED PRETRIAL STYLE ORDER
12		
13	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b> :	AUGUST 1, 2011
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REVISED CONSOLIDATED PRETRIAL STYLE ORDER – 2

HON. SHARON S. ARMSTRONG KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT 516 THIRD AVENUE SEATTLE, WA 98119

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#### I. APPLICABILITY AND ADMINISTRATION

## 1.1 <u>Cases to Which Applicable.</u>

This Order is specifically applicable to all pending asbestos cases filed in the Superior Court of Washington for King County, and to all future asbestos cases filed within this jurisdiction. This Order shall be effective on the date signed. This Order and the forms referred to in this Order shall be posted on the King County Superior Court website, <a href="https://www.kingcounty.gov/courts/superiorcourt/civil.aspx">www.kingcounty.gov/courts/superiorcourt/civil.aspx</a>.

### 1.2 Purpose.

This Order will not consolidate any case or join any parties in any other action, but will serve only to establish a uniform procedure for the conduct and coordination of orderly discovery and related matters in order to minimize duplication of discovery, to lessen unnecessary paperwork and to provide for the most economical use and time of all parties, counsel and the Court.

# 1.3 Effect on Prior Asbestos Style Orders.

This Court has previously entered "style" orders establishing procedures governing the commencement of actions seeking damages for asbestos-related disease, the setting of such actions for trial, and for conducting and coordinating all pre-trial discovery, disclosures, motion practice, and other pre-trial schedules and deadlines. This Order will supersede and replace all such prior procedural "style" orders including, without limitation, the orders listed below:

- (a) Consolidated Pretrial Style Order entered on February 17, 1984, by the Hon. Robert W. Winsor;
- (b) Style Order Regarding Motions For Accelerated Trial Dates entered on July 10, 1987, by the Hon. Shannon Wetherall;
- (c) Order Re Trial Setting and Accelerated Case Review entered on January 17, 1990, by the Hon. Dale B. Ramerman;

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litigation expenses in the asbestos litigation, shall not be communicated to the trier of fact by evidence, argument of counsel, or otherwise.

The existence of this Order, or breaches thereof, shall not be the subject of evidence or argument to the trier of fact. However, breaches or nonobservance of the terms and conditions of this Order shall be subject to motions to strike, motions to compel, or such other relief as the Court deems appropriate.

- 1.8 Amendments to Order and Exhibits [DELETED].
- 1.9 <u>Continuing Jurisdiction.</u>

The Presiding Judge of King County Superior Court or that judge's designee shall retain jurisdiction over all matters relating to the asbestos litigation generally, and motions to amend this Order, or motions to consolidate two or more cases should be directed to the Presiding Judge. Matters concerning an individual case should be directed to the assigned trial judge.

- 1.10 Affidavit of Prejudice [DELETED].
- 1.11 Separate Cause Number for Individual Plaintiffs.

Asbestos claims containing more than one plaintiff may not be filed without leave of court. For this purpose, a husband and wife shall be considered one claimant or plaintiff.

Unless good cause is subsequently shown, each plaintiff's case shall be tried separately.

- 1.12 Reconstruction of Multi-Plaintiff Cases [DELETED].
- 1.13 Cross-Claims.
- (a) Upon any plaintiff's dismissal of plaintiff's cause of action against any defendant on account of settlement or nonsuit or summary judgment of dismissal, all cross-claims by any and all other defendants against said dismissed defendant will automatically be deemed to be nonsuited without prejudice unless within ten (10) days following receipt of notice of said dismissal the cross-claiming defendant files and serves upon said dismissed defendant in the particular action (as opposed to style) a pleading

1	entitled "Notice of Intent to Preserve and Pursue Cross-claim" in the form set forth in
2	Section (d), below.
3	(b) [DELETED].
4	(c) This Order is neither intended to affect nor in any way restrict the
5	rights of any defendant to refile its claims against any defendant or pursue any proper claims
6	it may have by later action in accordance with applicable laws.
7	(d) Set forth below is the recommended form for the notice of intent to
8	preserve and pursue cross-claims:
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2		NO.
3	Plaintiff(s),	
4	v.	NOTICE BY DEFENDANT OF ITS INTENTION TO PRESERVE AND
5		PURSUE ITS CROSS-CLAIM HEREIN AGAINST DEFENDANT
6	Defendants.	AGAINST DEFENDANT
7		
8	COMES NOW defendant	and hereby
9	notifies defendant	of its intention to preserve
10	and pursue its cross-claim against said defenda	ant already on file herein.
11	DATED this day of	, 20
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13	E	By:
14		Of Attorneys for Defendant
15		
16	NOTICE OF INTENT TO PRESERVE AND PURSUE CROSS-CLAIM	
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REVISED CONSOLIDATED PRETRIAL STYLE ORDER – 9

1	II.	SCHE	EDULING
2		2.1	Lead Discovery Counsel [DELETED].
3		2.2	Specific Plaintiff Records and Discovery [DELETED].
4		2.3	Specific Defendants [DELETED].
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III.

COMPLAINTS AND ANSWERS

Service of the amended complaint on counsel for defendants shall be considered service on the party defendant. Such amendment may incorporate prior allegations in the same cause by reference. If a trial date has already been set, the timeliness of such amendments shall be subject to review by the trial court. The fact that the added spouse contends injuries or disease personal to himself/herself shall be made clear in the amended complaint.

#### 3.6 Amended Answers.

In the event a plaintiff amends his or her complaint without leave of court as provided in the immediately preceding paragraph, the same shall be deemed placed in issue without the necessity of any defendant having to amend its answer, provided, however, nothing herein shall be construed to prevent a defendant from amending its answer, in which event the answer shall be amended within 60 days of the amended complaint. In the event any defendant elects not to file an amended answer, the affirmative defenses previously pleaded shall be applicable to the new survivorship and/or spousal allegations made by plaintiff.

1	IV.	SERV	VICE AND NOTICE OF PLEADINGS
2		4.1	Original Process [DELETED].
3		4.2	Notice of Motions [DELETED].
4		4.3	Service of Motions and Discovery Generally [DELETED].
5		4.4	Sets and Service of Interrogatories and Requests for Production and
6			Admissions [DELETED].
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#### V. DISCOVERY

### 5.1 <u>Stay of Discovery.</u>

Defendants shall not propound supplemental discovery requests sooner than the date on which plaintiffs' answers to defendants' first style interrogatories to plaintiff are due. No deposition shall be taken earlier than 120 days after the filing of the complaint. No motion for summary judgment shall be heard earlier than 150 days after the filing of the complaint. Provided, however, that these limitations shall not apply when a trial has been accelerated pursuant to Part X of this Order.

#### 5.2 Interrogatories to Plaintiffs.

Defendants' counsel have developed a single standard set of interrogatories for each plaintiff (herein referred to as "standard interrogatories"). The same may be amended from time to time, provided, however, plaintiffs reserve the right to make substantive objection to any such changes in the standard interrogatories. Plaintiffs shall respond to standard interrogatories on or before the date set forth in the Order Setting Civil Asbestos Case Schedule issued in each case. Defendants may serve supplemental interrogatories on plaintiffs, subject to the limitation in Paragraph 5.1. Responses to supplemental interrogatories shall be due within 60 days of the date they are served. Counsel are urged to exercise the utmost good faith in determining the necessity for such further interrogatories and all parties are urged to attempt to resolve disputes growing out of such matters on an informal basis.

## 5.3 Interrogatories to Defendants.

(a) Plaintiffs' counsel may serve standard interrogatories to all defendants. The standard plaintiff interrogatories to all defendants, and defendants' responses, may be "styled" so as to apply to all cases represented by that particular plaintiff's counsel. In this event, the interrogatories must be identified as "style" interrogatories for filing in this cause reserved for that purpose. Further, in this event, the standard

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interrogatories shall not inquire as to any individual plaintiff or groups of plaintiffs other than all plaintiffs as a whole. Defendants shall have 60 days in which to respond to plaintiff standard interrogatories.

- (b) After 60 days from the date of service of plaintiff standard interrogatories, or after defendants' answers thereto, whichever first occurs, plaintiff may serve supplemental interrogatories to all defendants or individual defendants. Defendants shall have 60 days in which to respond to supplemental interrogatories. Counsel are urged to exercise the utmost good faith in determining the necessity for such further interrogatories and all parties are urged to attempt to resolve disputes growing out of such matters on an informal basis.
  - 5.4 <u>Defendants' Request for Documents [DELETED].</u>
  - 5.5 Plaintiffs Request for Documents [DELETED].
  - 5.6 Response to Request for Admissions.
- Each party shall have sixty (60) days to respond to Requests for Admissions.
  - 5.7 <u>Depositions, Generally.</u>
- (a) Counsel for plaintiffs and defendants may utilize out-of-state counsel for depositions notwithstanding such out-of-state counsel may not be admitted to practice in this state. The matter of use of out-of-state counsel for any particular trial shall be left for further order of the Court. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to overrule any prior orders of court in the state of Washington in the asbestos litigation in this state regarding out-of-state counsel.
  - (b) [DELETED].
  - (c) [DELETED].
- (d) Pre-Deposition Statement. Any party who intends to take a discovery deposition or a perpetuation deposition of a witness (other than a plaintiff) that the party has disclosed to testify at trial shall provide the information set forth below. To the extent the

- (f) A copy of any part of or all of the video deposition may be made by or for any party at said party's expense.
- (g) The party taking a video deposition shall be responsible for providing all necessary equipment and shall bear such costs of the original videotape transcription.
  - (h) The swearing or affirming of the witness shall be on camera.
- (i) The camera will remain stationary on the deponent at all times during the deposition, except for identification of exhibits, and will not zoom in or out on a witness or any other person at the deposition. The camera shall not "pan," other than to include exhibits, and the field of view should, to the extent possible, consist of a plain background.
  - (j) [DELETED].

#### 5.11 "Style" Discovery.

- (a) Either plaintiffs or defendants, individually or collectively, may initiate discovery that is applicable to all of their respective asbestos cases covered by this Order, such as standard interrogatories to all defendants, requests for admissions to all parties, depositions of independent third-parties, etc. Such discovery is hereinafter referred to as "Style" Discovery.
- (b) A deposition may be used at trial only as provided by the Washington Rules of Civil Procedure and the Washington Rules of Evidence. Style discovery shall be applicable only to parties appropriately served with notice of the particular discovery proceeding and to the cases subject to this Order. Style discovery, applicable to all parties hereto, shall be filed in this cause. All style discovery must indicate that it is "Style" discovery in the title of the notice of the same. Any party hereto may object to the Court to any particular discovery intended by any other party as style discovery applicable to all other parties herein.
- (c) As of such time as any party has been dismissed from all pending cases, or has filed and served a Notice of Intent to Settle all pending cases, a Stipulation of

1	Dismissal, or has entered into and given notice of a Release, Covenant Not to Sue, Covenant
2	Not to Enforce Judgment, or similar agreement in all cases in which it has been named as a
3	defendant in this jurisdiction, that party shall not be bound by discovery designated as
4	"Style" discovery. "Style" discovery conducted after thirty (30) days following the filing in
5	this jurisdiction and service of a new Summons and Complaint upon on any such party shall
6	be applicable to that party, provided, that party has received proper service of notice of the
7	discovery proceeding.
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# VI. MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS AND MISC. PLAINTIFF RECORDS

- 6.1 <u>Medical Examinations [DELETED].</u>
  - 6.2 <u>Time for Examination and Deposition of Examiner [DELETED].</u>
  - 6.3 <u>Autopsy and Pathology Reports.</u>
- (a) Plaintiffs' counsel shall attempt to obtain authorizations for autopsies from each plaintiff, and autopsies should be conducted for each plaintiff who expires for any reason during the pendency of this litigation, subject to religious or ethical considerations personal to that plaintiff or the immediate family. Defendants may provide a defense pathologist at their cost to observe the autopsy, who may request additional tissues be taken but shall not otherwise participate in the performance of the autopsy. The defense pathologist shall be provided with access to tissue samples, slides, and other matters reasonably necessary to make his/her own diagnosis. Tissue slides and other factual data obtained by the autopsy physicians and/or pathologists shall be made available one to the other. All reports and information furnished by the autopsy physician and/or pathologist shall be distributed to all counsel.
- (b) Upon learning of the death of any plaintiff, plaintiff's counsel shall contact defense counsel promptly to enable defendants to elect whether or not to send a defense pathologist to observe the autopsy.

### 6.4 Medical Records Identification.

To establish commonality of identification of records, all counsel shall endeavor to certify all medical records as follows: As to each plaintiff, each page within the records of each separate doctor and each separate health care provider shall be serially numbered in the lower right hand corner commencing with page 1.

# 6.5 <u>Production and Costs of Plaintiffs' Medical Reports.</u>

Plaintiff's counsel shall execute HIPPA-compliant stipulations for medical records, in a form published on the Court's website and deliver it to counsel for all parties within 90 days of filing the Complaint.

# 6.6 Other Records Pertaining to Plaintiff.

Plaintiffs' counsel shall execute a stipulation for the release of employment related records in the form published on the Court's website and deliver it to counsel for all parties within 90 days of filing the Complaint. The records for <u>each</u> employee, governmental unit, or other custodian shall be separately and serially numbered in the lower right hand corner commencing with page 1. By way of illustration, but not in limitation, the records contemplated herein include all employer records; all industrial insurance and compensation records, whether state, federal or private carrier; social security records, including print-out work records, Internal Revenue Service records; union records, etc.

1	VII.	FILIN	NG WITH CLERK
2		7.1	Filing Depositions, Produced Records and General Matter [DELETED].
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1	VIII.	OUT-	OF-STATE DEPOSITIONS
2		8.1	Scope of Ruling on Out-of-State Depositions [DELETED].
3		8.2	Plaintiff's Use of Out-of-State Depositions [DELETED].
4		8.3	Defendant's Use of Out-of-State Depositions [DELETED].
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and

testimony of each witness. A party may amend its disclosure of all other trial witnesses after the applicable cut-off date only upon a motion and upon good cause shown.

# 9.5 <u>Disclosure of Trial Testimony by Deposition.</u>

- (a) Each party shall serve on all parties and file a disclosure of all witnesses whose testimony at trial will be by deposition, video or otherwise, rather than testifying in person. Each party intending to offer testimony by deposition, video or otherwise, must state with particularity, as to each deposition so identified:
  - (1) The name, and last known address of the deponent;
  - (2) The date and place of deposition to be offered;
- (3) The name, jurisdiction and cause number of the cause of action that the deposition was noted in, if it is different from the present cause of action in which it will be offered;
  - (4) The specific parts of the deposition the party intends to offer;
- (5) The specific plaintiff(s) or defendant(s) against which each identified part of the deposition will be offered.
- (b) The party shall also provide to each party a copy of the entire deposition transcript from which testimony has been designated.
- (c) A party may amend its disclosure of trial testimony by deposition after the applicable cut-off date only upon a motion and upon good cause shown.

#### 9.6 <u>Disclosure of Trial Exhibits.</u>

The parties shall serve on all parties and file a disclosure of those exhibits they reasonably anticipate will be offered at the time of trial. These disclosures must include for each exhibit so identified a specific designation as to which plaintiff(s) or defendant(s) the particular exhibit will be introduced against. A party may amend its disclosure of trial exhibits after the applicable cut-off date only upon a motion and upon good cause shown.

1	9.7	Discovery Cut-Off and Amendment of Responses [DELETED].
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# X. GRANTING AND STRIKING ACCLERATED TRIAL DATES (FROM GENERAL STYLE ORDER NO. 10)

#### 10.1 Granting an Accelerated Trial Date.

In cases where the plaintiff has been diagnosed with a terminal condition, the plaintiff may move the Court to accelerate the trial date. If the Court grants plaintiff's motion, it shall issue an amended individual case schedule setting forth revised deadlines. The accelerated trial date shall be not earlier than six months after the date the motion to accelerate is filed. At least five (5) days before the time noted for consideration of a motion for an accelerated trial date, plaintiffs shall have served defendants with the following:

- (a) Answers to the standard interrogatories;
- (b) All medical and employment records in plaintiff's possession;
- A complete list of witnesses that Plaintiff then reasonably intends to (c) call at trial (either by live testimony or by deposition);
  - An affidavit of readiness: (d)
- Notice of the motion, with the reasons for the motion and the (e) requested trial date; and
- (f) An affidavit of service certifying that all defendants in the case have been served with the materials required in letters (a) through (e) listed above.

#### 10.2 Striking an Accelerated Trial Date.

In cases where the Court has granted an accelerated trial date, if plaintiff should die before the date of trial, the accelerated trial date will be stricken if the plaintiff's death occurs more than twenty-eight (28) days before the trial date. The accelerated trial date will not be stricken if the death occurs twenty-eight (28) days or fewer before the trial date, unless the Court rules otherwise upon motion of a party for good cause shown.

DATED this 18th day of July, 2011.

By: Alarm S. Clustury
JUDGE SHARON S. ARMSTRONG