IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

FUMA INTERNATIONAL LLC, an Ohio limited liability company,

Plaintiffs,

v.

R.J. REYNOLDS VAPOR COMPANY, a North Carolina corporation,

Defendant.

1:19-CV-260 [Lead Case]

1:19-CV-660

ORDER

This matter is set for pre-trial conference at 9:30 am on August 25, 2021.

The hearing will take place in person. In view of the public health situation, the Court will limit each party to two attorneys. Lead trial counsel must attend and one attorney admitted to practice before this Court must attend. The case manager will provide a call-in number so other attorneys and clients can listen, if they want.

In order for oral argument to be helpful and in view of the unmanageable and excessive number of motions filed by the parties and the limitation on the number of attorneys who can attend, counsel shall confer and agree on the motions best suited for hearing next week, which shall be limited to either 2 Daubert motions, 1 Daubert motion and 2 motions in limine, or 3 or 4 motions in limine, depending on complexity. The hearing must conclude by 3 pm because of other matters scheduled for court attention, and there will be a lunch break. Counsel

shall advise the Court of their suggestions by email to the case manager no later than 4:00 pm on August 19, 2021.

After receiving the suggestions, the Court will provide an agenda, which will also include time for discussion of scheduling and logistical issues related to pretrial matters and trial, mediation status, and other case management issues.

To facilitate that discussion, as to all matters not on counsel's joint list for consideration on August 25, counsel shall confer and shall prepare a joint list or chart listing each motion, and for the omnibus motions in limine, each unrelated question raised and related questions grouped; how long oral argument on each motion, or part of a motion, would take; and whether argument would be helpful or whether the matter can appropriately be resolved on the papers. If either side believes oral argument would be helpful, counsel shall also identify the lawyer who would make that argument. The list must be provided to the case manager via email no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 23.

The Court strongly suggests that counsel cooperate in these logistical matters so that the case can proceed efficiently.

SO ORDERED, this the 17th day of August, 2021.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE