

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE Northern District of Illinois – CM/ECF LIVE, Ver 6.3.2
Eastern Division**

RTC Industries, Inc.

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No.: 1:17-cv-03595

Honorable Martha M. Pacold

Fasteners for Retail, Inc., et al.

Defendant.

NOTIFICATION OF DOCKET ENTRY

This docket entry was made by the Clerk on Thursday, April 16, 2020:

MINUTE entry before the Honorable Sidney I. Schenkier: Defendant's unopposed motion for leave to file under seal (doc. # [459]) is granted; no appearance on the motion is required. Defendant's motion for leave to file a motion to preclude (docs. ## [461], [462]) is denied without prejudice pending the meet and confer process required by this Court's protocol entered long ago in the case. FFR served its meet and confer letter on 03/16/20 (doc. # [461], Ex.). On 03/26/20, RTC sent an email stating it could not meet and confer, or provide the responding letter that is the precursor to the meet and confer, until it had a chance to "evaluate the issues and respond" to FFR's letter. It appears that RTC has not yet responded. While of course we do not wish to impose any undue burden on the parties in light of the pandemic, it appears that the parties have continued to litigate this case during the restrictions on court activity set forth in General Order 20-0012 and its two successor orders. We therefore set the following schedule for the meet and confer process: RTC shall serve its responsive letter by 05/08/20, and the parties shall meet and confer in the presence of a court reporter (electronically, and not in person) by 05/15/20. Any motion on issues unresolved by the meet and confer process shall be filed by 05/22/20. If those dates present a problem for the parties in light of the pandemic, they shall meet and confer and propose revised dates. We emphasize that the only issue that is to be addressed in the meet and confer process is FFR's assertion that RTC should not be permitted to assert conception and reduction to practice dates that FFR says RTC first disclosed in a Court-ordered supplemental response to Interrogatory No. 2 that was served on 03/11/20. Our 02/24/20 order barring further discovery motions remains in effect. Mailed notice. (dal,)

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