UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Trademark Trial and Appeal Board

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Ey/kb

January 11, 2024

Cancellation No. 92083349

FM World Spolka Z Ograniczona Odpowiedzialnoscia

v.

Jetharam Nemaram Gehlot

Katie Bukrinsky, Interlocutory Attorney:

On December 12, 2023, Respondent filed a motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6). On January 1, 2024, Petitioner filed an amended petition to cancel.

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a)(1), made applicable to Board proceedings by Trademark Rule 2.116(a), a party may amend its pleading once as a matter of course within 21 days after serving it, or if the pleading is one to which a responsive pleading is required, 21 days after service of a responsive pleading or 21 days after service of a motion under Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b), (e) or (f), whichever is earlier. See Trademark Rule 2.115; TBMP § 507.01. However, as a practical matter, because the time to answer set by the Board's institution order is 40 days, a plaintiff may amend its complaint once as a matter of course beyond the initial 21 days from serving it until

the defendant files either an answer or a motion under Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b), (e) or (f). See TBMP § 507.02.

Petitioner's amended petition to cancel was filed as a matter of course, and is accepted as Petitioner's operative pleading in this proceeding. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a)(1)(A) and (B).

Accordingly, Respondent's motion to dismiss is moot and will be given no consideration.

Respondent is allowed until **February 2, 2024** to file an answer to the amended petition to cancel.

The proceeding schedule is reset as follows:

Time to Answer	2/2/2024
Deadline for Discovery Conference	3/3/2024
Discovery Opens	3/3/2024
Initial Disclosures Due	4/2/2024
Expert Disclosures Due	7/31/2024
Discovery Closes	8/30/2024
Plaintiff's Pretrial Disclosures Due	10/14/2024
Plaintiff's 30-day Trial Period Ends	11/28/2024
Defendant's Pretrial Disclosures Due	12/13/2024
Defendant's 30-day Trial Period Ends	1/27/2025
Plaintiff's Rebuttal Disclosures Due	2/11/2025
Plaintiff's 15-day Rebuttal Period Ends	3/13/2025
Plaintiff's Opening Brief Due	5/12/2025
Defendant's Brief Due	6/11/2025
Plaintiff's Reply Brief Due	6/26/2025
Request for Oral Hearing (optional) Due	7/6/2025

IMPORTANT TRIAL AND BRIEFING INSTRUCTIONS

Generally, the Federal Rules of Evidence apply to Board trials. Trial testimony is taken and introduced out of the presence of the Board during the assigned testimony periods. The parties may stipulate to a wide variety of matters, and many requirements relevant to the trial phase of Board proceedings are set forth in Trademark Rules 2.121 through 2.125, 37 C.F.R. §§ 2.121-2.125. These include pretrial disclosures, the manner and timing of taking testimony, matters in evidence, and the procedures for submitting and serving testimony and other evidence, including affidavits, declarations, deposition transcripts and stipulated evidence. Trial briefs shall be submitted in accordance with Trademark Rules 2.128(a) and (b), 37 C.F.R. §§ 2.128(a) and (b). Such briefs should utilize citations to the TTABVUE record created during trial, to facilitate the Board's review of the evidence at final hearing. See TBMP § 801.03. Oral argument at final hearing will be scheduled only upon the timely submission of a separate notice as allowed by Trademark Rule 2.129(a), 37 C.F.R. § 2.129(a).