

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Trademark Trial and Appeal Board  
P.O. Box 1451  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1451

Lykos

Mailed: February 2, 2007

Opposition Nos. 91171403  
91171404  
91172917

Anthem Insurance  
Companies, Inc.

v.

First Advantage Corporation

**Angela Lykos, Interlocutory Attorney**

**I. Consolidation**

By this order, Opposition Nos. 91171403, 91171404, and 91172917 are hereby consolidated. Consequently, the parties' future submissions should be captioned in the above manner.

When cases involving common questions of law or facts are pending before the Board, the Board may order, upon its own initiative or upon motion, the consolidation of the cases. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 42(a) and TBMP § 511 and authorities cited therein.

A review of the pleadings in the above identified opposition proceedings indicates that the parties are the same, and the proceedings involved substantially identical

questions of fact and law. For these reasons, these proceedings may be presented on the same record without appreciable inconvenience or confusion. Moreover, the consolidation would be equally advantageous to those parties in the avoidance of duplication of effort, loss of time, and the extra expense involved in conducting the proceedings individually.

The consolidated cases may be presented on the same record and briefs. See *Helene Curtis Industries Inc. v. Suave Shoe Corp.*, 13 USPQ2d 1618 (TTAB 1989) and *Hilson Research Inc. v. Society for Human Resource Management*, 26 USPQ2d 1423 (TTAB 1993).

The Board file will continue to be maintained in Opposition No. 91171403 as the "parent" case. As a general rule, only a single copy of any paper or motion should be filed herein; but that copy should bear all proceeding numbers in its caption. Exceptions to the general rule involve stipulated extensions of the discovery and trial dates, see Trademark Rule 2.121(d), and briefs on the case, see Trademark Rule 2.128.

Despite being consolidated, each proceeding retains its separate character. The decision on the consolidated cases shall take into account any differences in the issues raised by the respective pleadings; a copy of the decision shall be placed in each proceeding filed.

The parties are further advised that they are to inform the Board if any subsequent oppositions or cancellations are instituted which involve the same parties in the same issues.

## **II. Suspension**

Proceedings herein are suspended pending disposition of the motion to compel, except as discussed below. The parties should not file any paper which is not germane to the motion to compel. See Trademark Rule 2.120(e)(2).

This suspension order does **not** toll the time for either party to respond to discovery requests which had been duly served prior to the filing of the motion to compel, nor does it toll the time for a party to appear for a discovery deposition which had been duly noticed prior to the filing of the motion to compel. See *Id.* The motion to compel will be decided in due course.