

FILED
LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT

MAY 11 2011

JOHN A. CLARKE, CLERK
N. Navarro
BY NANCY NAVARRO, DEPUTY

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

General Order Re) ORDER PURSUANT TO CCP 1054(a),
Use of Voluntary Efficient Litigation) EXTENDING TIME TO RESPOND BY
Stipulations) 30 DAYS WHEN PARTIES AGREE
) TO EARLY ORGANIZATIONAL
) MEETING STIPULATION
)

Whereas the Los Angeles Superior Court and the Executive Committee of the Litigation Section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association have cooperated in drafting "Voluntary Efficient Litigation Stipulations" and in proposing the stipulations for use in general jurisdiction civil litigation in Los Angeles County;

Whereas the Los Angeles County Bar Association Litigation Section; the Los Angeles County Bar Association Labor and Employment Law Section; the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles; the Association of Southern California Defense Counsel; the Association of Business Trial Lawyers of Los Angeles; and the California Employment Lawyers Association all "endorse the goal of promoting efficiency in litigation, and ask that counsel consider using these stipulations as a voluntary way to promote communications and procedures among counsel and with the court to fairly resolve issues in their cases;"

1 Whereas the Early Organizational Meeting Stipulation is intended to encourage
2 cooperation among the parties at an early stage in litigation in order to achieve
3 litigation efficiencies;

4 Whereas it is intended that use of the Early Organizational Meeting Stipulation
5 will promote economic case resolution and judicial efficiency;

6
7 Whereas, in order to promote a meaningful discussion of pleading issues at the
8 Early Organizational Meeting and potentially to reduce the need for motions to
9 challenge the pleadings, it is necessary to allow additional time to conduct the Early
10 Organizational Meeting before the time to respond to a complaint or cross complaint
11 has expired;

12
13 Whereas Code of Civil Procedure section 1054(a) allows a judge of the court in
14 which an action is pending to extend for not more than 30 days the time to respond to
15 a pleading "upon good cause shown";

16 Now, therefore, this Court hereby finds that there is good cause to extend for 30
17 days the time to respond to a complaint or to a cross complaint in any action in which
18 the parties have entered into the Early Organizational Meeting Stipulation. This finding
19 of good cause is based on the anticipated judicial efficiency and benefits of economic
20 case resolution that the Early Organizational Meeting Stipulation is intended to
21 promote.
22

23
24 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, in any case in which the parties have entered
25 into an Early Organizational Meeting Stipulation, the time for a defending party to
26 respond to a complaint or cross complaint shall be extended by the 30 days permitted
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28

1 by Code of Civil Procedure section 1054(a) without further need of a specific court
2 order.

3
4 DATED:

May 11, 2011

Carolyn B. Kuhl

Carolyn B. Kuhl, Supervising Judge of the
Civil Departments, Los Angeles Superior Court