IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

JEFF SAMUELS,	\$ 8
Plaintiff,	9 9 8
v.	8 §
AVT TITLE SERVICES, LLC,	8 8
DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL	8 8
TRUST CO., PHH MORTGAGE	8 8
CORP., POWER DEFAULT SERVICES	8 8
INC.,	\$ \$
Defendants.	<pre>\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$</pre>
JOANNA BURKE,	8 §
Intervenor-Plaintiff,	\$ \$
v.	9 §
AVT TITLE SERVICES, LLC,	9 §
DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL	§
TRUST CO., PHH MORTGAGE	Š.
CORP., POWER DEFAULT SERVICES	Š.
INC.,	§
	Š
Intervenor-Defendants.	8

JOINT DISCOVERY/CASE MANAGEMENT PLAN UNDER RULE 26(F) FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

Pursuant to Rule 26 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff Jeff Samuels ("*Plaintiff*"), and Defendants PHH Mortgage Corporation ("*PHH*"), Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for FFMLT TRUST 2004-FF3, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-FF3 ("*Deutsche Bank*"), and Power Default Services, Inc. ("*Power Default*") (collectively, "*Defendants*"), and Intervenor-Defendant AVT Title Services, LLC ("*AVT*"), and

Intervenor-Plaintiff Joanna Burke ("Burke") submit the following joint discovery plan and case

management plan:

1. State when the parties conferred as required by Rule 26(f) and identify the counsel who conferred.

RESPONSE: Defendants and AVT Title Services conferred on April 16, 2024. Jeff Samuels did not confer with the Parties. Alexis del Rio attended for Defendants; Mark Cronenwett attended for AVT. Joanna Burke conferred with the parties only to request to be removed from this matter.

2. List the cases related to this one that are pending in any state or federal court with the case number and court.

RESPONSE: Joana Burke, a party to this case, has the following other related cases:

Joanna Burke v. Deutsche Bank National Trust Co., et al., Adversary No. 24-03056, Bankr. S.D. Tex. Joanna Burke v. PHH Mortgage Corporation et al., No. 4:24-cv-00897, S.D. Tex. Joanna Burke v. PHH Mortgage Corporation et al., Appeal No. 23-3593, 8th Cir. In re Joanna Burke, Bankruptcy No. 24-35083, Bankr. S.D. Tex. In re Joanna Burke, Bankruptcy No. 24-30885, Bankr. S.D. Tex.

3. <u>Briefly</u> describe what the case is about.

RESPONSE: Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief to prevent foreclosure of the real property commonly known as 14810 Winding Waters Drive, Cypress, Texas 77429. Defendant Power Default and AVT Title Services have submitted verified denials. PHH and Deutsche Bank have submitted general denials.

4. Specify the allegation of federal jurisdiction.

RESPONSE: Federal jurisdiction exists because of complete diversity and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000, excluding interest and costs.

5. Name the parties who disagree and the reasons.

RESPONSE: Defendant's do not disagree.

6. List anticipated additional parties that should be included, when they can be added, and by whom they are wanted.

RESPONSE: None at this time.

7. List anticipated interventions.

RESPONSE: No other interventions are anticipated.

8. Describe class-action issues.

RESPONSE: None at this time.

9. State whether each party represents that it has made the initial disclosures required by Rule 26(a). If not, describe the arrangements that have been made to complete the disclosures.

RESPONSE: The parties agree to make initial disclosures pursuant to Rule 26(a) by April 30, 2024.

- 10. Describe the proposed agreed discovery plan, including:
 - A. Responses to all the matters raised in Rule 26(f).

RESPONSE: 1. Plaintiff and Defendants, Interventor-Plaintiff and Intervenor Defendant will make their initial disclosures by April 30, 2024.

- 2. Either disk or paper format is acceptable for documents produced.
- 3. There is no known reason to change discovery limitations under these rules or by local rule at the present time. If such need arises in the future, the parties will address it.
- B. When and to whom the plaintiff anticipates it may send interrogatories.

RESPONSE: Defendants are unaware of Plaintiff's intention to send interrogatories.

C. When and to whom the defendants anticipate it may send interrogatories.

RESPONSE: Defendants anticipate sending interrogatories to Plaintiff by 33 days prior to the close of the discovery period.

D. Of Whom and by when the plaintiff anticipates taking oral depositions.

RESPONSE: Defendant's are unaware of Plaintiff's intention of taking oral depositions.

E. Of Whom and by when the defendant anticipates taking oral depositions.

RESPONSE: Defendants do not anticipate taking depositions at this time. Should Defendant depose anyone in this matter they will do so prior to the discovery cut of period.

F. When the plaintiff (or the party with the burden of proof on an issue) will be able to designate experts and provide the reports required by Rule 26(a)(2)(B), and when the opposing party will be able to designate responsive experts and provide their reports.

RESPONSE: Plaintiff will designate experts and provide reports by June 3, 2024. Defendants will designate experts and provide reports by July 3, 2024.

G. List expert depositions the plaintiff (or the party with the burden of proof on an issue) anticipates taking and their anticipated completion date. See Rule 26(a)(2)(B) (expert report).

RESPONSE:

H. List expert depositions the opposing party anticipates taking and their anticipated completion date. See Rule26(a)(2)(B) (export report).

RESPONSE: None at this time.

11. If the parties are not agreed on a part of the discovery plan, describe the separate view and proposals of each party.

RESPONSE: None.

12. Specify the discovery beyond initial disclosures that has been undertaken to date.

RESPONSE: None.

13. State the date the planned discovery can reasonably be completed.

RESPONSE: April 1, 2025.

14. Describe the possibilities for a prompt settlement or resolution of the case that were discussed in your Rule 26(f) meeting.

RESPONSE: The parties are engaging in informal settlement negotiations in an attempt to effectuate a prompt settlement and resolution.

15. Describe what each party has done or agreed to do to bring about a prompt resolution.

RESPONSE: At this time Defendants and AVT Title Services are still gathering information related to the matter to facilitate a resolution.

16. From the attorneys' discussion with the client, state the alternative dispute resolution techniques that are reasonably suitable, state when such a technique may be effectively used in this case.

RESPONSE: The alternative dispute resolution techniques that are reasonably suitable to the parties include informal settlement negotiations and/or mediation.

17. Magistrate judges may now hear jury and nonjury trials. Indicate the parties' joint position on a trial before a magistrate judge.

RESPONSE: The parties do not consent to trial before a magistrate judge.

18. State whether a jury demand has been made and if it was made on time.

RESPONSE: A jury demand has been made.

19. Specify the number of hours it will take to present the evidence in this case.

RESPONSE: 4-8 hours.

20. List pending motions that could be ruled on at the initial pretrial and scheduling conference.

RESPONSE: (1) Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff Jeff Samuels' Claims by AVT Title Services, LLC filed on 12/26/2023; (2) Motion to Dismiss Intervenor-Plaintiff Joanna Burke's Claims by AVT Title Services, LLC filed on 12/26/2023; and (3) Motion to Remand by Jeff Samuels filed on 1/16/2024 and Response to Motion to Remand filed Defendants Deutsche Bank, PHH Mortgage and Power Default on 2/6/2024.

21. List other motions pending.

RESPONSE: None.

22. Indicate other matters peculiar to this case, including discovery, that deserve the special attention of the court at the conference.

RESPONSE: None.

23. Certify that all parties have filed Disclosure of Interested Parties as directed in the Order for Conference and Disclosure of Interested Parties, listing the date of filing for original and any amendments.

RESPONSE: Defendants have submitted their Disclosure of Interested Parties on April 16, 2024.

24. List the names, bar numbers, addresses, and telephone numbers of all counsel.

RESPONSE:

Mark D. Cronenwett State Bar No. 00787303 Mackie Wolf Zientz & Mann, P.C. 14160 N. Dallas Parkway, Suite 900 Dallas, Texas 75254 Telephone: 214-635-2670

Attorney for AVT Title Serivces

Emily Stroope State Bar No. 24070692 Alexis Del Rio State Bar No. 24120796 Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C. 5956 Sherry Lane, 20th Floor Dallas, Texas 75225 Telephone: (713) 650-9700 Facsimile: (713) 650-9701 estroope@bakerdonelson.com adelrio@bakerdonelson.com

Attorney for Defendants PHH Mortgage Corporation, Power Default Services, Inc., and Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for FFMLT TRUST 2004-FF3, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-FF3 /s/

/s/ Jeff Samuels, Pro Se Plaintiff

/s/

Attorney for Defendants PHH Mortgage Corporation, Power Default Services, Inc., and Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for FFMLT TRUST 2004-FF3, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-FF3

/s/

Attorney for Defendant AVT Title Services

/s/

Joanna Burke, Pro Se Intervenor

Date

Date

Date

Date

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on April 16, 2024, a copy of the above and foregoing was filed electronically with the Clerk of Court. Notice of this filing has been forwarded to all parties, by and through their attorneys of record by operation of the Court's electronic filing system and/or via email.

Via e-mail <u>Jeff.uben@gmail.com</u> and CMRRR No. 7022 3330 0000 7770 1558 Jeff Samuels 14810 Winding Waters Drive Cypress, TX 77429

Pro Se Plaintiff

Via e-mail joanna@2dobermans.com and CMRRR No. 7022 3330 0000 7770 3897 Joanna Burke 46 Kingwood Greens Dr Kingwood, Texas 77339

Pro Se Intervenor

Via CM/ECF

Mark D. Cronenwett Mackie Wolf Zientz & Mann, P.C. 14160 N. Dallas Parkway, Suite 900 Dallas, Texas 75254

> Attorneys For Defendant AVT Title Services, LLC

<u>/s/ Alexis del Rio</u> Alexis del Rio