

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

LAWRENCE E. JAFFE PENSION PLAN, On)	Lead Case No. 02-C-5893
Behalf of Itself and All Others Similarly)	(Consolidated)
Situated,)	
)	<u>CLASS ACTION</u>
Plaintiff,)	
)	Judge Ronald A. Guzman
vs.)	Magistrate Judge Nan R. Nolan
)	
HOUSEHOLD INTERNATIONAL, INC., et)	
al.,)	
)	
Defendants.)	
)	
)	

LEAD PLAINTIFFS' STATUS CONFERENCE STATEMENT TO THE HONORABLE
RONALD A. GUZMAN IN ADVANCE OF THE MARCH 27, 2008 STATUS
CONFERENCE

In advance of the March 27, 2008 status conference, lead plaintiffs respectfully submit this status conference statement to facilitate a productive and meaningful discussion.

I. STATUS OF EXPERT DISCOVERY

The parties have completed the depositions of all retained experts with the exception of defendants' damages expert Mukesh Bajaj, who is scheduled to be deposed on March 25, 2008, prior to the Status Conference. Defendants have noticed the deposition of Charles Cross, who was listed on lead plaintiffs' disclosure of potential non-retained experts submitted pursuant to Judge Nolan's February 26, 2008 Order. Mr. Cross' deposition, which is scheduled for April 9, 2008, should not further delay setting a schedule for summary judgment and trial.

II. PROPOSED SCHEDULE

Defendants have indicated they intend to move for summary judgment. Lead plaintiffs intend to file a motion based on defendants' spoliation of evidence, including the destruction of key documents. Lead plaintiffs propose that the parties brief each of these motions concurrently as they both could impact the issues and evidence to be presented at trial. Accordingly, lead plaintiffs propose the following schedule:

Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment	April 28, 2008
Lead Plaintiffs' Motion Regarding Defendants' Spoliation of Evidence	April 28, 2008
Lead Plaintiffs' Opposition to Motion for Summary Judgment	June 12, 2008
Defendants' Opposition to Motion Regarding Defendants' Spoliation of Evidence	June 12, 2008
Reply In Support of Motion for Summary Judgment	July 11, 2008
Reply in Support of Motion Regarding Defendants' Spoliation of Evidence	July 11, 2008

Deadline for parties to meet to exchange information pursuant to ¶6(a) of the Standing Order Establishing Pretrial Procedure (“Standing Order”)	July 25, 2008
Parties to exchange statements of issues they will offer evidence to support, pursuant to ¶6(b) of the Standing Order	August 29, 2008
Parties to submit draft pretrial order pursuant to ¶6(c) of the Standing Order	October 3, 2008
Proposed Final Pretrial Conference	October 10, 2008
Proposed Trial Date	October 17, 2008

III. LENGTH OF TRIAL

Lead plaintiffs anticipate the trial can be completed in 5-6 weeks.

IV. MEDIATION

Defendants approached lead plaintiffs to discuss settlement, and the parties have scheduled a mediation before Judge Layn Phillips of JAMS on May 20, 2008. The parties had one prior mediation before Judge Phillips on May 23, 2005. Additionally, as the Court may recall, the parties had an informal settlement conference before the Court on August 22, 2005. Neither of the prior attempts to settle this case resulted in a serious offer to resolve this action. Although lead plaintiffs are hopeful the May 20, 2008 mediation will be productive, lead plaintiffs have reservations about defendants’ intent to participate in meaningful discussions about settling this case, given the futility of the parties’ prior attempts. Lead plaintiffs strongly believe that a firm trial date will incentivize defendants to participate in serious settlement discussions.

DATED: March 24, 2008

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DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND BY U.S. MAIL

I, the undersigned, declare:

1. That declarant is and was, at all times herein mentioned, a citizen of the United States and employed in the City and County of San Francisco, over the age of 18 years, and not a party to or interested party in the within action; that declarant's business address is 100 Pine Street, Suite 2600, San Francisco, California 94111.

2. That on March 24, 2008, declarant served by electronic mail and by U.S. Mail to the parties the: **LEAD PLAINTIFFS' STATUS CONFERENCE STATEMENT TO THE HONORABLE RONALD A. GUZMAN IN ADVANCE OF THE MARCH 27, 2008 STATUS CONFERENCE**. The parties' email addresses are as follows:

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and by U.S. Mail to:

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 24th day of March, 2008, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ Marcy Medeiros

MARCY MEDEIROS