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NOLL CASE No. 4:14-MD-02541-CW ¹ ECF Nos. 654, 704, 714, 748, 749.

² ECF Nos. 939, 946, 955.

Between August and December 2017, the Parties filed lengthy and detailed motions to exclude certain—and in some cases, all—expert opinions offered by the opposing Party.¹ On April 25, 2018, the Court issued a comprehensive order granting in part and denying in part the Parties' respective motions (ECF No. 815). In accordance with the parameters of that Order and pursuant to the Stipulation and Order for Pretrial Proceedings (ECF No. 836), on July 3, 2018, Plaintiffs filed their written expert direct testimony (ECF No. 865); on July 11, 2018, Defendants' filed their expert testimony (ECF No. 883); and on July 17, 2018, Plaintiffs filed their expert rebuttal testimony (ECF No. 921). Shortly thereafter, each Party raised objections to the opposing Party's proffered expert testimony, contending that each expert had exceeded the scope of his previously-disclosed report. And on July 19, 2018, the Court ordered a "[b]riefing schedule regarding 'new' expert opinions" to consider the Parties' objections (ECF No. 927). After full briefing,² on August 16, 2018, the Court resolved those remaining objections (ECF No. 968) and thereby finalized the direct expert testimony that the Court intended to receive into evidence.

In the two months that have passed between the filing of Plaintiffs' experts' direct testimony and trial, Defendants never once indicated that they intended to file additional objections, nor did they seek to establish a schedule to accommodate the filing of such objections—a procedure that Defendants' experienced trial attorneys know should have been coordinated with the Court and Plaintiffs' counsel. Instead, Defendants waited until after trial started to hand to Plaintiffs' counsel, and to offer to hand up to the Court, a 63-page set of new objections to the direct and rebuttal testimony of Dr. Daniel A. Rascher (the "Rascher Objections") (ECF No, 1026).

Then, near the end of the first day of trial, Defendants stated, for the first time, their intent to file a similar set of new objections to the written testimony of Dr. Roger G. Noll—testimony which Defendants also had for months and to which they already objected. Indeed, hours later, Defendants filed an 88-page set of previously undisclosed objections to the direct and rebuttal testimony of Dr. Roger G. Noll (the "Noll Objections") (ECF No. 1031) and it is safe to assume that Defendants have in their back pocket a third set of new objections that they are waiting to file in response to the July

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3, 2018 direct testimony of Plaintiffs' expert, Hal Poret.

Permitting Defendants to proceed with their untimely objections would be unfair to both Plaintiffs and the Court. Defendants themselves acknowledged that they did not expect the Court to rule on the objections during the first day of trial. Indeed, by withholding their objections until the last second, Defendants ensured that (1) the Court would not have the opportunity to consider and address such objections when reading the corresponding testimony before trial; (2) Plaintiffs would be unable to address the objections with the relevant witness during redirect examination; and (3) Plaintiffs would be required to devote substantial time to respond to these latent objections in the middle of a long-anticipated trial.

Plaintiffs respectfully ask the Court to overrule each of the Rascher Objections and Noll Objections as untimely and to preclude Defendants from proffering similar and untimely objections to the direct testimony of Mr. Poret. If the Court were to permit Defendants to proceed with their untimely objections, Plaintiffs respectfully request that (1) the Court order that Defendants immediately file their written objections to the testimony of Mr. Poret; (2) Plaintiffs be permitted to file written responses to Defendants' objections on or before September 17, 2018; and (3) Plaintiffs be permitted to file written objections to Defendants' expert testimony on or before September 17, 2018.

1	Dated: September 4, 2018	Respectfully submitted,
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ATTESTATION PURSUANT TO CIVIL LOCAL RULE 5-1(i)(3) Pursuant to Civil Local Rule 5-1(i)(3), the filer of this document attests that concurrence in the filing of this document has been obtained from the signatories above. By: <u>/s/ Jeffrey L. Kessler</u> Jeffrey L. Kessler