

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF  
WASHINGTON

Sheila Marino, an individual, on behalf of herself and all others  
similarly situated v. Farmers New World Life Insurance Company;  
and Does 1 through 10, inclusive

Marino · No. 2:25-cv-02200-JNW · Decided January 12, 2026

SUMMARY

This document is a stipulated motion by Sheila Marino and Farmers New World Life Insurance Company to stay discovery and initial case deadlines pending resolution of the defendant’s motion to dismiss. The United States District Court for the Western District of Washington granted the motion and ordered discovery and the initial scheduling deadlines stayed on January 12, 2026.

CASE DETAILS

|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COURT                 | United States District Court for the Western District of Washington                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| WRITING FOR THE COURT | Jamal N. Whitehead                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| JURISDICTION          | United States District Court for the Western District of Washington                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| DECIDED               | January 12, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| DOCKET                | 2:25-cv-02200-JNW                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| DISPOSITION           | other                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| PROCEDURAL POSTURE    | Plaintiff filed a putative class action in King County Superior Court. Defendant removed the action to federal court and moved to dismiss. Before the motion to dismiss was resolved, the parties jointly moved to stay discovery and the initial scheduling deadlines. |
| PRECEDENTIAL VALUE    | nonprecedential                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

TOPICS

- discovery dispute
- motions to dismiss
- civil procedure
- insurance

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- insurance

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should stay discovery and the initial scheduling deadlines pending resolution of the defendant's motion to dismiss.

## HOLDINGS

1. The court granted the stipulated motion and stayed discovery and the initial deadlines contained in the Initial Scheduling Order pending the outcome of the court's order on the defendant's motion to dismiss.

## KEY QUOTATIONS

*“[T]he power to stay proceedings is incidental to the power inherent in every court to control the disposition of the causes on its docket with economy of time and effort for itself, for counsel, and for litigants.”* (at 2)

*“IT IS SO ORDERED that discovery and the initial deadlines contained within the Initial Scheduling Order be stayed pending the outcome of the Court’s Order on Defendant’s Motion to Dismiss.”* (at 4)

## FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Sheila Marino filed a putative class action against Farmers New World Life Insurance Company in state court. After removal to federal court, Farmers moved to dismiss. The parties agreed that discovery and the initial deadlines should be stayed while the motion to dismiss remained pending, citing judicial economy and preservation of party and judicial resources.

## PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff filed the action in King County Superior Court on October 1, 2025. Defendant removed the case on November 5, 2025, moved to dismiss on November 20, 2025, and the court issued an initial scheduling order on December 5, 2025. The parties then filed a stipulated motion to stay discovery and the scheduling deadlines pending resolution of the motion to dismiss, which the court granted on January 12, 2026.

## DISPOSITION

other

## CASES CITED

- Landis v. North American Water Works & Electric Co., 299 U.S. 248, 254 (1936)

## OPINION

Marino

PER CURIAM.

1 THE HONORABLE JAMAL N. WHITEHEAD

2 3 4 5 6

7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

8 AT SEATTLE

9 10 SHEILA MARINO, an individual, on behalf of Case No. 2:25-cv-02200-JNW herself and all  
others similarly situated,

11 STIPULATED MOTION TO STAY

Plaintiff, DISCOVERY AND ORDER 12 v. NOTE ON MOTION CALENDAR:

13 DECEMBER 23, 2025

FARMERS NEW WORLD LIFE

14 INSURANCE COMPANY; and DOES 1

through 10, inclusive, 15 Defendants. 16

17 STIPULATED MOTION

18 Pursuant to Local Civil Rules 7(d)(1) and 10(g), Defendant Farmers New World Life 19  
Insurance Company (“FNWL”) and Plaintiff Sheila Marino, (collectively, the “Parties”), by and 20  
through their respective counsel, respectfully submit this joint stipulated motion to stay discovery  
21 and the deadlines contained within the Court’s Order Regarding Initial Disclosures and Joint  
Status 22 Report (“Scheduling Order”) (Dkt. 11) pending the Court’s resolution of FNWL’s  
Motion to 23 Dismiss (Dkt. 10). In support of this Stipulated Motion, the Parties state as follows:  
24 1. On October 1, 2025, Plaintiff filed this putative class action against FNWL in King County  
25 Superior Court, entitled Sheila Marino, an individual, on behalf of herself and all others 26

STIPULATED MOTION TO STAY DISCOVERY

1 similarly situated, v. Farmers New World Life Insurance Company, Case No. 25-2-28917- 2 6-  
SEA. 3 2. FNWL filed a Notice of Removal on November 5, 2025 (Dkt. 1). 4 3. FNWL filed a  
Motion to Dismiss on November 20, 2025 (Dkt. 10). 5 4. On December 5, the Court issued its  
Initial Scheduling Order (Dkt. 11). The Initial 6 Scheduling Order set the following deadlines: 7 a.  
December 26, 2025: Deadline for Parties to hold an FRCP 26(f) Conference; 8 b. January 9, 2026:  
Deadline for Parties to exchange Initial Disclosures pursuant to 9 FRCP 26(a)(1); and 10 c.  
January 16, 2026: Deadline for Parties to submit their Joint Status Report and 11 Discovery Plan  
to the Court per FRCP 26(f) and Local Civil Rule 26(f). 12 5. The Parties have conferred and  
agree that a stay of discovery and deadlines set forth in the 13 Initial Scheduling Order pending  
the Court’s resolution of FNWL’s Motion to Dismiss is 14 in the best interest of the Parties,  
counsel, and the Court; that a stay would promote the 15 interests of judicial economy; and that a  
stay would help preserve judicial and party 16 resources. See *Landis v. North Am. Water Works  
and Elec. Co.*, 299 U.S. 248, 254 (1936) 17 (“[T]he power to stay proceedings is incidental to the  
power inherent in every court to 18 control the disposition of the causes on its docket with  
economy of time and effort for itself, 19 for counsel, and for litigants.”). 20 6. The Parties  
accordingly request that the Court stay all case deadlines and discovery pending 21 a decision by  
the Court on FNWL’s Motion to Dismiss. 22 7. This Stipulated Motion is filed in good faith and is  
supported by good cause.

23 CONCLUSION

24 For the foregoing reasons, the Parties respectfully request that this Stipulated Motion be 25

granted and that the Court stay discovery and the initial deadlines contained within the Initial 26 Scheduling Order pending the outcome of the Court's Order on Defendant's Motion to Dismiss.

#### STIPULATED MOTION TO STAY DISCOVERY

1 IT IS SO STIPULATED THIS 23rd day of December, 2025. 2 I certify that this memorandum contains 422 words, in compliance with the Local Civil Rules. 3

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World Counsel Plaintiff Sheila Marino Life Insurance Company 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23

24 25 26

#### STIPULATED MOTION TO STAY DISCOVERY

##### 1 ORDER

2 Pursuant to LCR 10(g), and based on the foregoing stipulated motion of the parties, for 3 || good cause and due to the circumstances set forth above in the stipulated motion; IT IS SO 4 ||

ORDERED that discovery and the initial deadlines contained within the Initial Scheduling Order 5

|| be stayed pending the outcome of the Court's Order on Defendant's Motion to Dismiss. 6 7

||DATED: January 12, 2026 BY THE COURT: ? on. Jamal N. Whitehead 10 1] 12 13 14 15 16 17

18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

#### STIPULATED MOTION TO STAY DISCOVERY

##### AND ORDER - 4

(Case No. 2:25-CV-02200-JNW) STOEL RIVES up