

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
LOUISIANA

Michael Long v. Wal-Mart Louisiana, LLC

Long · No. 25-1050 · Decided April 21, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana grants the parties’ joint motion to continue the trial and all unexpired pretrial deadlines. The court finds good cause because illness delayed the plaintiff’s deposition and consequently postponed other depositions, and schedules a telephone conference for May 21, 2026.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Sarah S. Vance
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana
DECIDED	April 21, 2026
DOCKET	25-1050
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The plaintiff and defendant jointly moved to continue the trial and all non-expired pretrial deadlines under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(b)(4).
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Whether to grant or deny a continuance is within the sound discretion of the trial court; modification of a scheduling order requires good cause under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(b)(4).
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unknown; district court order
PARTIES	Michael Long v. Wal-Mart Louisiana, LLC

TOPICS

civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the parties established good cause under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(b)(4) to continue the trial and all unexpired pretrial deadlines.

HOLDINGS

1. The parties demonstrated good cause because illness-related deposition delays prevented them from meeting the existing deadlines despite their diligence; therefore, the court granted the joint motion to continue proceedings.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The “good cause standard requires the party seeking relief to show that the deadlines cannot reasonably be met despite the diligence of the party needing the extension.””

“For the foregoing reasons, the Court GRANTS the joint motion to continue proceedings.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Illness repeatedly delayed Michael Long's deposition. That delay postponed other depositions, including those of fact witnesses and treating physicians, making it impossible for the parties to meet the existing trial and pretrial deadlines despite their diligence.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The parties sought additional time because illness delayed the plaintiff's deposition, which postponed depositions of fact witnesses and treating physicians. The district court found good cause and granted the joint motion, resetting all unexpired scheduling-order deadlines and directing the parties to participate in a telephone scheduling conference.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- S&W Enters., L.L.C. v. SouthTrust Bank, NA, 315 F.3d 533, 535 (5th Cir. 2003)
- United States v. Alix, 86 F.3d 429, 434 (5th Cir. 1996)

OPINION

Long

PER CURIAM.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

MICHAEL LONG CIVIL ACTION

VERSUS NO. 25-1050

WAL-MART LOUISIANA, LLC SECTION “R” (4)

ORDER AND REASONS

Before the Court is a joint motion from plaintiff Michael Long and defendant Wal-Mart Louisiana, LLC to continue the trial and all non-expired pre-trial deadlines.¹ Rule 16(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure provides that “[a] scheduling order may be modified only for good cause and with the judge’s consent.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(4). The “good cause standard requires the party seeking relief to show that the deadlines cannot reasonably be met despite the diligence of the party needing the extension.” *S&W Enters., L.L.C. v. SouthTrust Bank, NA*, 315 F.3d 533, 535 (5th Cir. 2003) (cleaned up). Whether to grant or deny a continuance is within the sound discretion of the trial court. *United States v. Alix*, 86 F.3d 429, 434 (5th Cir. 1996). The Court finds that the parties have met the good cause standard here. See *S&W Enters., L.L.C.*, 315 F.3d at 535. Illness repeatedly delayed 1 R. Doc. 11. plaintiffs deposition, which in turn postponed other depositions of fact witnesses and treating physicians. The Court finds that the parties cannot meet the current deadlines despite the diligence of the parties. For the foregoing reasons, the Court GRANTS the joint motion to continue proceedings. The new scheduling conference will be held BY TELEPHONE on May 21, 2026 at 10:30a.m. for the purpose of re- scheduling the pre-trial conference and trial on the merits, and for a discussion of the status of the case and discovery deadlines. All deadlines established in the scheduling order on September 29, 2025 which have not expired are reset.² The parties shall call in for the teleconference using phone number (833) 990-9400 and access code 124518418. The Court will be represented by its Case Manager. New Orleans, Louisiana, this 21st day of April, 2026. Aorwk Vavt1e.

SARAH S. VANCE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

2 R. Doc. 8.