

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Gonzalez v. Amazon.com Services, LLC

No. 1:24-cv-00325-KES-CDB, United States District Court for the Eastern District of California (March 21, 2025)

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of California granted in part the parties’ stipulated request to continue scheduling deadlines in Gonzalez v. Amazon.com Services, LLC. The court amended the scheduling order, continued the mid-discovery status conference and motion deadlines, and vacated the previously scheduled conference date, while warning that further extensions were unlikely absent extraordinary circumstances.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
DECIDED	March 21, 2025
DOCKET	1:24-cv-00325-KES-CDB
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The parties jointly requested a continuance of case-management deadlines and amendment of the scheduling order while they pursued informal settlement discussions.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Good cause under the governing scheduling order and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(b)(4) was required to modify the deadlines; the court exercised its discretion to determine the appropriate length of any continuance.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished, nonprecedential district court scheduling order

TOPICS

- civil procedure
- discovery dispute

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- employment litigation

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the parties demonstrated good cause for a 90-day continuance of the scheduling-order deadlines.
2. Whether the court should amend the scheduling order and continue the related status-conference, motion-filing, and motion-hearing dates.

HOLDINGS

1. The parties did not demonstrate good cause for the requested 90-day continuance, but the circumstances warranted a shorter 45-day extension.
2. The scheduling order was amended to extend the specified discovery, disclosure, motion, pretrial, and trial deadlines by approximately 45 days, and the mid-discovery status conference and motion hearings were continued.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“In these days of heavy caseloads, trial courts in both the federal and state systems routinely set schedules and establish deadlines to foster efficient treatment and resolution of cases. Those efforts will be successful only if the deadlines are taken seriously by the parties, and the best way to encourage that is to enforce the strictly with scheduling and other orders” (at 2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

After the case was filed, counsel for both Plaintiff and Defendant changed, requiring new counsel to familiarize themselves with the matter. The parties were engaged in informal settlement negotiations and agreed to conserve discovery resources while pursuing those discussions. They had already exchanged initial disclosures, documents, and written discovery.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The action was pending in the Eastern District of California under a scheduling order. After counsel for both parties changed and the parties exchanged initial disclosures and discovery, they submitted a stipulated request to extend deadlines by 90 days. The court found good cause for only a 45-day extension, amended the scheduling order accordingly, and vacated or continued related status-conference and motion-hearing dates.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Wong v. Regents of Univ. of Cal., 410 F.3d 1052, 1060 (9th Cir. 2005)

OPINION

Gonzalez v. Amazon.com Services LLC

PER CURIAM.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

9 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10 11 CASSANDRA GONZALEZ, Case No. 1:24-cv-00325-KES-CDB 12 Plaintiff, ORDER
GRANTING STIPULATED

REQUEST TO CONTINUE DEADLINES

13 v.

AND AMENDING SCHEDULING ORDER

14 AMAZON.COM SERVICES, LLC, AS MODIFIED

15 Defendant. (Doc. 19)

16 ORDER VACATING MID-DISCOVERY

STATUS CONFERENCE

17 18 19 Background 20 Pending before the Court is the parties' stipulated request to continue
case management 21 deadlines. (Doc. 19). In support of the request, the parties represent that,
since the filing of this 22 action, counsel for both Plaintiff and Defendant have changed the
attorneys handling this matter. 23 This has required the new handling attorneys to take additional
time to familiarize themselves with 24 the case. The parties provide that they are actively involved
in informal negotiations and, if 25 unsuccessful, may consider scheduling a settlement conference
through the Court. As such, they 26 have agreed to conserve resources as to discovery until they
have had the opportunity to engage in 27 settlement discussions. (Id. at 2; Doc. 19-1 at 2). The
parties met and conferred on March 17, 28 2025, regarding the requested continuance. (Doc. 19-1
at 2). Additionally, in their joint status 1 report filed in advance of the mid-discovery status
conference, the parties represent that they have 2 exchanged initial disclosures, documents, and
written discovery. (Doc. 18 at 2). 3 Discussion 4 The parties propose the following extended
deadlines (Doc. 19 at 3): 5 Event Current Date New Date 6 Non-Expert Discovery Deadline
05/30/2025 08/28/2025 7 Expert Disclosure Deadline 06/30/2025 09/28/2025 8 Rebuttal
Disclosure Deadline 07/14/2025 10/12/2025 9 Expert Discovery Deadline 08/29/2025 11/27/2025
10 Mid-Discovery Status Conference 03/27/2025 11 Non-Dispositive Motion Filing Deadline
05/30/2025 08/28/2025 12 Non-Dispositive Motion Hearing 07/08/2025 13 Dispositive Motion
Filing Deadline 06/19/2025 09/17/2025 14 Dispositive Motion Hearing 08/04/2025 15 Pre-Trial
Conference 12/01/2025 03/01/2026

16 Trial 01/27/2026 04/27/2026

17 As the parties have not demonstrated good cause for a 90-day continuance, the Court finds 18 a
shorter continuance of 45 days as to the above dates to be warranted. 19 Given the extension of
other deadlines, it is impractical to grant the parties' request while 20 maintaining the current mid-
discovery status conference, non-dispositive motion hearing, and 21 dispositive motion hearing

dates. As such, the mid-discovery status conference, non-dispositive 22 motion hearing, and dispositive motion hearing dates will be extended. 23 In light of the extensions of time granted herein, the Court admonishes the parties that it is 24 unlikely to grant further extensions of time absent extraordinary circumstances. As the Court of 25 Appeals has observed: 26 In these days of heavy caseloads, trial courts in both the federal and state systems routinely set schedules and establish deadlines to foster efficient treatment and 27 resolution of cases. Those efforts will be successful only if the deadlines are taken seriously by the parties, and the best way to encourage that is to enforce the 28 1 strictly with scheduling and other orders .. . 2 Wong v. Regents of Univ. of Cal., 410 F.3d 1052, 1060 (9th Cir. 2005). While the Court finds a 3 | brief extension of deadlines appropriate to accommodate the parties' anticipated settlement 4 | discussions, it will require that protracted discussions beyond the six-week extension granted herein 5 | be undertaken in parallel with timely completion of discovery obligations. 6 | Conclusion and Order 7 In light of the parties' representations and good cause appearing, IT IS HEREBY 8 | ORDERED that the scheduling order (Doc. 14) be amended only to the extent of continuing the 9 following deadlines: 10 Event Prior Date Amended Date 11 1. Non-Expert Discovery Deadline 05/30/2025 07/14/2025 12 2. Expert Disclosure Deadline 06/30/2025 08/14/2025 13 3. Rebuttal Disclosure Deadline 07/14/2025 08/28/2025 14 4. Expert Discovery Deadline 08/29/2025 10/13/2025 IS 5. Mid-Discovery Status Conference 03/27/2025 05/15/2025 16 6. Non-Dispositive Motion Filing Deadline 05/30/2025 07/14/2025 17 7. Non-Dispositive Motion Hearing 07/08/2025 08/22/2025 18 8. Dispositive Motion Filing Deadline 06/19/2025 08/04/2025 19 9. Dispositive Motion Hearing 08/04/2025 09/22/2025 20 10. Pre-Trial Conference 12/01/2025 01/20/2026 21 11. Trial 01/27/2026 03/24/2026 22 IT IS SO ORDERED. 23 Dated: _ March 21, 2025 | br 24 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE 25 26 27 28