

**FILED**  
Superior Court of California  
County of Los Angeles

**MAY 07 2025**

David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court  
By: A. Morales, Deputy

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

BEATRICE SINGLETON

Plaintiff,

vs.

JOHN PAUL MITCHELL SYSTEMS

Defendants

Case No. 25STCV12558

**INITIAL STATUS CONFERENCE ORDER**

DATE: 06/20/2025

TIME: 11:00 a.m.

PLACE: DEPARTMENT 7, SPRING ST.

**\*\*JOINT STATEMENT DUE FIVE COURT  
DAYS IN ADVANCE OF HEARING\*\***

This case has been assigned for all purposes to Judge Samantha P. Jessner.

Please read the important courtroom information for Department 7 posted on the court's website ([www.lacourt.org](http://www.lacourt.org)) (go to "Courtroom Information on the Home page) which contains answers to many frequently asked questions.

The Court has scheduled an Initial Status Conference on the date and at the time set out above in Department 7, Second Floor, 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.

1 Department 7 utilizes the LACourtConnect video and telephonic conference platform  
2 for hearings. Parties and counsel are invited to appear in person or via LACourtConnect.  
3 The Court has no preference. When appearing via LACourtConnect, please do so from a  
4 quiet place. Rules concerning court attire apply.

5  
6 **COUNSEL TO FILE NOTICE OF APPEARANCE;**

7 **PLEADING STAY UNTIL FURTHER ORDER**

8 The Court orders each defendant promptly following service of summons and  
9 complaint to file a Notice of Appearance of counsel. The Notice of Appearance does not  
10 affect or prejudice any counsel's or party's legal position on any issue including without  
11 limitation any jurisdictional challenge.

12 The Court hereby issues a stay on the filing and service of any other pleadings.

13 Notwithstanding the stay, (a) a party may file notice of related case and (b) a  
14 plaintiff may file an amended complaint to add a PAGA claim to a wage and hour putative  
15 class action provided that no answer to the original complaint has been filed.

16 The Court issues the stay to provide for an orderly schedule for briefing and  
17 hearings on procedural and substantive pleadings challenges. This stay precludes without  
18 limitation the filing of any demurrer, motion to strike, motion challenging the jurisdiction of  
19 the Court or cross-complaint until further order of the Court.

20  
21 **DISCOVERY STAY UNTIL FURTHER ORDER**

22 The Court hereby imposes a stay on all discovery proceedings until further order  
23 of the Court including any obligation to make initial disclosures. This stay does not prevent  
24 the parties from informally exchanging documents or information that may assist in their  
25 initial evaluation of the issues presented in this case. This stay ordered by the Court for  
26 purposes of case management is not a stay under Code of Civil Procedure section 583.310  
27 unless the Court so orders.

## **INITIAL STATUS CONFERENCE**

The purpose of the Initial Status Conference is to identify a fair and efficient way of proceeding with the case. The Court encourages the parties to propose approaches to case management.

The Court orders counsel for all parties to confer via telephone, videoconference or other real time technology, at least **ten court days** before the Initial Status Conference. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the issues set out below so that counsel can prepare a Joint Statement to be filed with the Court **five court days** before the Initial Status Conference.

All parties in Department 7 must sign up with an e-service provider and activate a message board so that the Court can communicate with counsel prior to the ISC. The Court orders the parties to agree upon and sign up with an e-service provider (Case Anywhere, or File & ServeXpress) at least **five court days** before the ISC. So that the Court can promptly issue an order appointing the e-service provider, the Court orders Plaintiff's counsel to identify the selected e-service provider by sending an email to Dept. 7 at SSCDept7@lacourt.org upon agreement of an e-service provider.

Please remember that electronic service is not the same as electronic filing.

## **PREPARING FOR THE ISC AND PREPARATION OF THE JOINT STATEMENT**

Plaintiff's counsel should take the lead in preparing the Joint Statement and in ensuring that it includes a brief description of the facts and causes of action and addresses the following questions. To the extent the parties disagree on any question, each party should set out their position in a separate paragraph beneath the issue or question heading.

1. Are there any issues of judicial recusal or disqualification?
2. The case type:
  - (a) wage and hour class action with or without PAGA;
  - (b) other class action (describe);

- (c) construction defect;
- (d) mass tort;
- (e) insurance coverage; or
- (f) other (describe).

Each party should briefly describe the nature of the case, and the claims and defenses. For wage and hour class actions, the parties should describe, to the extent known, the nature of the defendant's business, plaintiff's relevant work duties and the alleged work violation(s).

3. The status of service and notice(s) of appearance(s) by defendant(s).

4. Whether any party intends to challenge jurisdiction (subject matter or personal).

5. The parties' selected e-service provider (Case Anywhere or File & ServeXpress).

6. What provisions should be made for the preservation of evidence.

7. What provisions should be made for electronically stored evidence.<sup>1</sup>

8. Do the parties need a limited- or non-dissemination protective order? (The court recommends the model protective orders found on the Los Angeles Superior Court website ([www.lacourt.org](http://www.lacourt.org)) under the Complex Court tab ("Civil Tools for Litigators."))

9. A proposed deadline for adding and serving any new parties.

10. Should either or both the pleading and discovery stay be lifted and, if so, when and for what purposes?

---

<sup>1</sup> If electronically stored information must be produced, the court encourages the parties' respective IT consultants/employees to participate in the meet and confer process addressing (1) the information management systems employed by the parties; (2) the location and custodians of information (including the identification of network and email servers and hard drives maintained by target custodians); (3) the format in which electronically stored information will be produced; (4) the type of ESI that will be produced, i.e., data files, emails, etc.; and (5) appropriate search criteria for focused requests.

1 11. The identification of any “related case”. (Answer question 15 for wage and hour  
2 class action/PAGA matters.)

3 12. A service list identifying all primary and secondary counsel along with their  
4 firm names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses.

5 13. Recommended orders to be made at the ISC.

6 14. Recommended date for the next status conference.  
7

8 **FOR WAGE AND HOUR PUTATIVE CLASS ACTIONS/PAGA MATTERS**

9 15. Each party should state, if known: (a) the estimated size of any putative class;  
10 (b) a description (including case numbers) of any related or potentially related cases pending  
11 in other departments of the Los Angeles Superior Court or any other court (including class  
12 actions with overlapping class definitions); and (c) whether a class representative has or is  
13 expected to file a PAGA claim either as an amendment in this lawsuit or filed separately,  
14 independent of this lawsuit—and if so, whether such separate lawsuit should be deemed  
15 related to this lawsuit; and if not, why not. (Parties are encouraged to review their obligations  
16 regarding notices of related cases.)

17 16. Does any party intend to move to compel arbitration? Before filing a motion to  
18 compel arbitration, the defendant must provide the plaintiff with a copy of the arbitration  
19 agreement, and meet and confer with counsel to determine whether the plaintiff will oppose  
20 the motion to compel arbitration.

21 The defendant so intending to move is required to provide a copy of the relevant  
22 agreements purportedly containing the arbitration provisions well before the ISC meet and  
23 confer, and plaintiff’s counsel is expected to have formed a position as to whether plaintiff  
24 will or will not oppose a demand for arbitration and whether discovery should be opened  
25 relative to the subject of arbitration.

26 17. The parties’ positions on “class list” discovery and arrangements for a *Belaire-*  
27 *West* notice process.  
28

1 18. Are the parties committed to engage in early mediation and if so, (a) when is  
2 the mediation scheduled to occur and (b) what accommodations, if any, do they parties seek  
3 from the court? (Note: this should be discussed with clients well in advance of the ISC so  
4 that counsel are in a position to make commitments at the ISC.)  
5

6 **PLAINTIFF'S COUNSEL TO SERVE THIS ISC ORDER**

7 The Court orders Plaintiff's counsel to serve this Initial Status Conference Order  
8 on counsel for all other parties, or if counsel's identity is not known, on the parties within  
9 seven days of service hereof.  
10

11  
12  
13 Dated: MAY 07 2025



14  
15 Samantha P. Jessner  
16 Judge of the Superior Court  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28