UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS GALVESTON DIVISION

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Civil Action No. 3:22-CV-00117	
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DEFFENDANTS' OPPOSED MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE CLOSING BRIEFS AND FINDINGS FROM FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 8th TO WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 13th, OR AS THE COURT WILL ALLOW

Defendants file this motion to ask the Court to extend the time in which to file proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and their Closing Brief, from Friday September 8, 2023 to Wednesday September 13, 2023. Defendants have conferred with Plaintiffs about this request, and Plaintiffs are opposed to this request.

Good cause exists for this request. Defendants continue to work diligently to complete their Closing Brief (with a 60-page count limit), and their proposed Findings and Conclusions for the 10-day bench trial held between August 7, 2023 and August 18, 2023. Plaintiffs, who are collectively represented by 34 lawyers, intend to file separate closing briefs and a joint findings and conclusions document.

In the time between the close of trial and the filing of this motion, Defendants' counsel has diligently worked on the Findings of Fact intended for filing in this matter, obtained transcripts, coordinated with counsel in reviewing copies of trial transcripts and exhibits, worked on confirming exhibit lists and organized its Closing Brief. Defendants will continue working toward completion of Findings of Fact and Closing Briefs; however, Defendants anticipate needing additional time beyond Friday, September 8, 2023 to provide proper work-product to the Court.

Additionally, the undersigned counsel has expended time to cases and discovery that pended during the trial in this matter, reviewed and conferred with counsel regarding recent appellate decisions (including in *CMS Consultants, LLC v. EPM Disaster Recovery Team, LLC*, No. 14-22-00101-CV), and assisted in the

review and preparation of the Appellees' brief in *Evans v. MB Harbour, Ltd.*, No. 14-23-00011-CV.

Defendants make this request for a brief extension in the interest of justice in order to provide the Court with concise and well-briefed assistance for its deliberations, and not to delay proceedings.

Defendants pray the Court grant this motion and extend the parties' deadlines to file their closing briefs and proposed findings and conclusions to Wednesday, September 13, 2023. In the alternative, Defendants ask for any other amount of additional time the Court may reasonably grant.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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By: /s/ Joseph Russo

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Counsel for Defendants

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CERTIFICATE OF CONFERENCE

I certify that I conferred with counsel for all Plaintiffs on September 5, 5023 and Plaintiffs are OPPOSED to this request.

/s/ Joseph Russo, Jr.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served to all counsel of record via the ECF e-filing system on September 6, 2023.

/s/ Angie Olalde

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[PROPOSED] ORDER

The Court has considered Defendants' request for an extension of time in which to file their Closing Brief and proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law. The Court has considered the Motion, its opposition, the pleadings and hereby

GRANTS the Motion. The new deadline for the parties to file their Closing Briefs and proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law is Wednesday, September 13, 2023. Any responses to the Closing Briefs are due Wednesday, September 20, 2023.

Signed on Galveston Island this _____ day of September, 2023.

HON. JEFFREY VINCENT BROWN UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE