

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE Northern District of Illinois – CM/ECF NextGen 1.6.3
Eastern Division**

John Gross and Company, Inc., et al.

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No.: 1:19–cv–08318

Honorable Virginia M. Kendall

Agri Stats, Inc., et al.

Defendant.

NOTIFICATION OF DOCKET ENTRY

This docket entry was made by the Clerk on Thursday, October 20, 2022:

MINUTE entry before the Honorable Gabriel A. Fuentes: With a telephonic hearing currently set for 9:30 a.m. Chicago time on 10/26/22 to discuss expert discovery (doc. #[603]), and with the pendency of the Hormel and Jennie–O defendants' fully briefed motion to preclude the deposition of witness Tegt (doc. #[597]) as well as plaintiffs' recently filed motion to amend the scheduling and discovery order (doc. #[604]), the Court would like to offer junior counsel an opportunity to speak to the expert discovery issue and to argue the two motions. The Court strikes the 10/26/22 hearing and resets it to 10:30 a.m. Chicago time on 11/1/22, when there will be ample time to address all three issues. If the parties do not indicate that they will permit junior associates to argue the motions, the Court will hold the hearing telephonically on the expert discovery issue only and will decide the two motions on the paper submissions. The Court kindly requests that the parties confer and notify the courtroom deputy by the close of business on 10/25/22 whether counsel with less than four years of experience after law school will be permitted to speak and argue; ideally, different counsel would argue the two different motions for the arguing parties. Also, multiple junior counsel could divide a party's arguments on a single motion if it makes logical sense to do so. Senior counsel of course may and should attend in a supervisory role and will be permitted to add or clarify as they see fit. No inferences should be drawn about the importance of any motion to the Court based on the Court's attempt to create professional development opportunities for junior counsel. Additionally, the status hearing on the expert discovery issue strikes the Court as one that could be addressed by junior counsel. The 11/1/22 may be converted to a video hearing if the parties wish junior counsel to address the foregoing issues. The Court will await further word from the parties on 10/25/22. In the meantime, defendants may file a written response (preferably a consolidated one) to the scheduling and discovery order motion by noon on 10/28/22. No reply is ordered at this time. Mailed notice. (jj,)

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