

FILED
Plumas Superior Court

FEB 07 2022

Deborah Norrie,
Clerk of the Court
By *D. W. Norrie*
Deputy Clerk

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Coordination Proceeding)	
Special Title (Rule 3.550))	JUDICIAL COUNCIL
)	COORDINATION PROCEEDING
DIXIE FIRE CASES)	
)	No. 5208
)	

ORDER RE: PETITIONS FOR COORDINATION OF 2021 DIXIE FIRE CASES

Pursuant to the Order Assigning Coordination Motion Judge received from the Chief Justice and Chair of the Judicial Council, Douglas M. Prouty, as Presiding Judge of Plumas County Superior Court, sat as the Coordination Motion Judge to address the issues designated to be heard in that Order. On February 2, 2022, at 9 a.m. in Department 2 of Plumas County Superior Court, the matter was heard with attorneys appearing telephonically by CourtCall, as set forth in the attached list of counsel for numerous Plaintiffs, insurance carriers and public entities, as well as counsel Bethany Kristovich and Nicholas Fram personally appearing on behalf of Defendant Pacific Gas and Electric and William McCann appearing on behalf of Plaintiff Jerome Wright.

Pursuant to this Court's Order this hearing was set to determine if the cases which are the subject of the Coordination Petitions and any subsequent cases which are filed regarding the 2021 Dixie Fire are to be designated complex cases, and if so determined, if coordination of those cases is appropriate. Further, if coordination is determined to be appropriate, this Coordination Motion Judge is to make a recommendation as to a particular site for coordination proceedings per Rule of Court 3.530.

This Court reviewed the Supplemental Statements filed by parties in this action and after hearing oral argument from counsel on the issues to be decided by this Judge, the matter was submitted for decision.

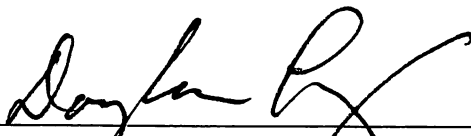
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1. This Court finds that Notice of the date and time of this hearing has been given to all interested parties as required by the Order Assigning Coordination Motion Judge.
2. Pursuant to Rule of Court 3.400(b), this Court finds that there are currently over 30 known and pending related civil actions involving the 2021 Dixie Fire in various Northern California counties and pursuant to Rule of Court 3.400(c), these actions all involve mass tort claims arising out of the 2021 Dixie Fire, and thereby are provisionally complex cases. Therefore, this Judge orders that these cases are to be designated as complex cases pursuant to Rule of Court 3.502.
3. Pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure §§404 and 404.1, this Court finds that the aforesaid complex civil cases have common questions of fact and law, parties and are currently pending in at least three(3) different California courts. Moreover, this Judge finds for the convenience of parties and witnesses, the effective utilization of judicial facilities and manpower, and to avoid the possible disadvantages of duplicative and inconsistent rulings, orders or judgments, one judge hearing all of the complex civil actions for pre-trial purposes, will promote the ends of justice. Accordingly, pursuant to CCP §§ 404 and 404.1, this Judge orders that the Petitions for Coordination of these complex civil actions are hereby granted and those cases shall be heard as coordinated cases for pre-trial purposes.
4. This Judge is also to make a recommendation as to the particular superior court for the site of coordination proceedings pursuant to Rule of Court 3.350. The Court heard that virtually all parties requested coordination in San Francisco Superior Court and also that Court has a Complex Litigation Department which has previously handled complex civil actions arising from large Northern California wildfires from 2017 to 2020. Further, it is apparent that the aforesaid complex litigation department has facilities, staff, and is specifically designed to expeditiously and efficiently hear large complex cases similar to these Dixie Fire cases. Therefore, pursuant to Rule of Court 3.502, this Judge recommends that the Complex Litigation Department of the San Francisco Superior Court be the site of the coordination proceedings for pre-trial purposes for these complex 2021 Dixie Fire cases.

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5. Pending the transfer of these cases for further coordination proceedings, each of these coordinated cases are stayed.

Dated: 2/7/22



Judge of the Superior Court

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Attachment 1 – Counsel and Parties Appearing by CourtCall

- John Fiske, Jason Julius, Victoria Sherlin, Taylor O’Neal, subrogation Plaintiffs
- Christopher Sieglock, individual Plaintiff
- Mikal Watts & Alan Watts, individual Plaintiff
- Howard Maycon, Alana Burke, subrogation Plaintiffs
- Allan Bridgford, Sophia Arin, individual Plaintiffs
- Robert Bryson, individual Plaintiff
- Richard Frankel, individual Plaintiff
- Douglas Boxer, individual Plaintiff
- Jade Koller, individual Plaintiff
- Ed Diab, individual Plaintiff
- John Lemon, individual Plaintiff
- Gerald Singleton, Tommy Vu – individual Plaintiffs
- Todd Becker, individual Plaintiff
- Shawn Miller, individual Plaintiff
- Donald Magilligan, individual Plaintiff
- Joanna Fox, individual Plaintiff
- Shawn Caine, individual Plaintiff
- Bret Parkinson, individual Plaintiffs
- Shannon Nocon, individual Plaintiff
- Eric Schroeder, subrogation Plaintiff
- Liya Wallace, individual Plaintiff
- Christi Forsline,, Jonathan Griffith, subrogation Plaintiffs
- Craig Simon, subrogation Plaintiff
- David Preim, Plaintiff SRL

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF PLUMAS**

CLERK'S CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE BY MAIL (CCP 1013a[3])

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I, , Deputy Clerk of the above named Court, do certify that I am not a party to the above-entitled cause; that on the date shown below I served the foregoing document, Order Re: Petitions for Coordination of 2021 Dixie Fire Cases, by depositing a true copy thereof, enclosed in a separate, sealed envelope, with postage thereon fully prepaid, in the United States mail, each of which envelopes was addressed respectively to the persons and addresses listed above.

Mailed at Quincy, California

Deborah W. Norrie, Clerk of the Court

Dated: 2/10/22

By C. La Croix
, Deputy Clerk