

PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
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May 28, 2020

Via Electronic and U.S. Mail

Special Master Michael J. Melloy United States Courthouse 111 Seventh Avenue, S.E. P.O. Box 22 Cedar Rapids, IA 52401

Email: TxvNM141@ca8.uscourts.gov

Re: State of Texas v. State of New Mexico and State of Colorado, United States Supreme Court, Original Jurisdiction No. 141

Dear Special Master Melloy:

The State of Texas (Texas) respectfully submits this status report for the May 29, 2020 hearing, addressing the agenda items set forth in the Special Master's May 26, 2020 Order.

A. Continued discussion regarding appointment of a mediator

Texas proposes two potential mediators:

1. Randall W. Wulff
Wulff Quinby Sochynsky
1901 Harrison Street, 14th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 663-5222

A copy of Mr. Wulff's curriculum vitae (CV) is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Oliver W. Wanger (Retired U.S. District Court Judge)
 Wanger Jones Helsley PC
 265 E. River Park Circle, Suite 310
 Fresno, CA 93720
 (559) 233-4800

A copy of Mr. Wanger's curriculum vitae (CV) is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

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Texas is prepared to discuss the attributes of each of these proposed mediators at the May 29, 2020 status conference.

B. Discovery issues

1. Whether the parties should be required to file their expert designations with the Court

Texas supports the Special Master's proposal at the May 15, 2020 status conference that the parties should file their expert designations with the Court. Texas proposes that the parties file the expert designation pleadings, including supplemental designations, without the reports with supporting data that accompany the pleadings, unless otherwise instructed by the Special Master. The parties' cumulative reports with supporting data represent multiple terabytes of electronic files, unlikely to be of significant value to the Special Master outside of testimony.

2. Current deposition schedule

The Parties continue to participate in meet and confer efforts regarding the virtual deposition schedule. The following thirty-nine (39) depositions are confirmed (some complete):

Party Taking Lead for Deposition	Witness Name	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
New Mexico	Phil King	EBID District Engineer; Non- Retained expert of the U.S. and Texas	5/18/20 – 5/19/20 [Complete]
New Mexico	Erik Fuchs	EBID Groundwater Resources Director; Non-Retained expert of Texas	5/20/20 – 5/21/20 [Complete]
New Mexico	George Hornberger	Texas expert	5/22/20 [Complete]
New Mexico	Bill Hutchison	Texas expert	5/28/20 [Complete]
New Mexico	Joel Kimmelshue	Texas expert	6/5//20
New Mexico	Mica Heilmann	Texas expert	6/6/20
New Mexico	Stephanie Tillman	Texas expert	6/6/20
New Mexico	Travis Brooks	Texas expert	6/6/20
New Mexico	Scott Miltenberger	Texas expert	6/8/20
Texas	Sheldon Dorman	New Mexico OSE, former Lower Rio Grande Water Master	6/9/20
New Mexico	Leonardo Lombardini	Texas expert	6/10/20
Texas	Ryan Serrano	New Mexico OSE, Lower Rio Grande Water Master, Day 3	6/11/20
New Mexico	David Sunding	Texas expert	6/12/20
New Mexico	Al Blair	EP1 District Engineer; non- retained expert for Texas and the United States.	6/16/20 - 6/18/20

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Party Taking Lead for Deposition	Witness Name	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
New Mexico	Shane Coors	Texas expert	6/22/20 - 6/23/20
Texas	John D'Antonio	New Mexico State Engineer	6/23/20 – 6/26/20 (half days)
New Mexico	Wayne Treers	United States Bureau of Reclamation	6/25/20 - 6/26/20
Texas	Rolf Schmidt-Peterson	Director of the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission	6/29/20 - 6/30/20
New Mexico	Jean Moran	United States expert	6/29/20 - 6/30/20
Texas	Dana Hoag	New Mexico expert (including rebuttal testimony)	7/1/20
Texas	Bryan Thoreson	New Mexico expert (including rebuttal testimony)	7/2/20 - 7/3/20
United States	Esteven Lopez	New Mexico expert (including rebuttal testimony)	7/6/20 – 7/7/20
Texas	Rick Allen	New Mexico expert (including rebuttal testimony)	7/8/20 – 7/9/20
United States	Peggy Barroll	New Mexico expert (including rebuttal testimony)	7/9/20
New Mexico	Pat Gordon	Texas Rio Grande Commissioner	7/14/20 – 7/16/20
Texas	David Jordan	New Mexico expert (including rebuttal testimony)	7/17/20
New Mexico	Herman Settemeyer	Former Engineer Advisor – TCEQ/Rio Grande Compact Commission	7/21/20 – 7/22/20
Texas	Lewis Munk	New Mexico expert (including rebuttal testimony)	7/23/20
New Mexico	Curtis Seaton	Former Engineer Advisor - TCEQ/Rio Grande Compact Commission	7/27/20
Texas	Jennifer Stevens	New Mexico expert (including rebuttal testimony)	7/27/20
New Mexico	Filiberto Cortez	United States Bureau of Reclamation	7/29/20 - 7/31/20
New Mexico	Carolyn Donnelly	United States Bureau of Reclamation	8/4/20
United States	John Carron	New Mexico expert (including rebuttal testimony)	8/5/20
United States	Steven Setzer	New Mexico expert (including rebuttal testimony)	8/6/20
Texas	Charles Spalding	New Mexico expert (including rebuttal testimony)	8/11/20 - 8/12/20
Texas	Greg Sullivan	New Mexico expert (including rebuttal testimony)	8/13/20 - 8/14/20
New Mexico	Gary Esslinger	EBID Manager and Board Member	8/17/20 - 8/18/20
Texas	Gilbert Barth	New Mexico expert (including rebuttal testimony)	8/18/20 - 8/19/20
Texas	Daniel Morrissey	New Mexico expert (including rebuttal testimony)	8/20/20

In addition to the above depositions, New Mexico has also conferred with the parties regarding six additional witnesses from Colorado (Sullivan), the United States (Drusina), and EP1 (Fifer, Salopek, Reyes, and Ivey). Texas understands that three of the requested EP1 witnesses are on hold, pending discussions between counsel for New Mexico and EP1.

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New Mexico has not initiated further meet and confer discussions to add any additional witnesses not discussed above.

C. Begin discussion concerning key issues that will need to be resolved at trial

Key issues to address at trial, many of which may be properly addressed in motions for partial summary judgment, include:

- 1. Whether the Rio Grande Project was fully integrated into the 1938 Compact;
- 2. What are New Mexico's duties under the 1938 Compact to protect Rio Grande Project deliveries intended for Texas;
 - a. Does the text of the 1938 Compact require New Mexico to relinquish control and dominion over the water it deposits into Elephant Butte Reservoir; and
 - b. May New Mexico, through its agents or subdivisions, divert or intercept water it is required to deliver to Elephant Butte Reservoir pursuant to the 1938 Compact after the water is released from Elephant Butte Reservoir.
- 3. Whether New Mexico must refrain from post-1938 depletion of water (i.e., depletions that are greater than what occurred in 1938) below Elephant Butte Reservoir;
- 4. Whether New Mexico state law plays any role in an interstate dispute;
- 5. What was the 1938 condition that should be used as the basis upon which to judge New Mexico's actions and the effect of those actions;
- 6. Has New Mexico's actions depleted the quantity of water available below Elephant Butte Reservoir, and if so, (a) what was the cause of these depletions and (b) what was the extent (quantification) of these depletions;
- 7. The nature and extent of hydrologically connected groundwater and its relationship to the Rio Grande and the Rio Grande Reclamation Project and the relevant issues raised in the Texas complaint;
- 8. The historic and current operations of the Rio Grande Project;

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- 9. The quantity of water that Texas was entitled to under the Rio Grande Compact and the quantity of water that Texas actually received under the Rio Grande Compact, with the difference being a quantification of Texas's injury; and
- 10. The determination of the appropriate remedy, which would include:
 - a. Injunctive relief;
 - b. Past damages-water or dollars; and
 - c. Prospective damages-water or dollars.

We appreciate Your Honor's consideration of Texas's positions in advance of the May 29, 2020 status conference and look forward to the upcoming hearing.

Very truly yours,

s/Stuart L. Somach

Stuart L. Somach Counsel of Record State of Texas

TCB:cmg

cc: All counsel for parties and amici (see attached service list)

Texas v New Mexico & Colorado docket:

TxvNM141@ca8.uscourts.gov

EXHIBIT A

Randall W. Wulff



Contact:
Michael Richards
Case Manager for Mr. Wulff

1901 Harrison Street, 14th Floor Oakland, CA 94612 Telephone: 510-663-5222

E-mail:

Michael Richards: mrichards@wqsadr.com
Randall W. Wulff: rwulff@wqsadr.com

Before becoming a full-time neutral in 1994, Randall Wulff was a trial lawyer with Farella Braun & Martel LLP in San Francisco for 20 years, specializing in complex commercial, construction, intellectual property, securities, insurance coverage, real estate and employment litigation, representing both plaintiffs and defendants. Mr. Wulff received his J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, in 1974, where he was ranked first academically in his class in 1972 and 1973, achieving the academic honoraries of the Order of the Coif and Thurston Society. In 1974, he then served as Hastings' first extern for the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court, and also worked on the editorial staff of the Hastings Law Journal. In addition to his active trial practice at Farella, he was also an adjunct professor at Hastings, having taught courses in "Trial Evidence" and "Complex Litigation." Mr. Wulff has tried cases in federal court, state court and the U.S. Court of Claims. He has also arbitrated many cases and acted as an arbitrator in several more.

Because of this extensive experience, Mr. Wulff has been selected as a mediator in over two thousand diverse cases, settling most of those cases. They have ranged from twoparty cases to suits involving more than one hundred parties.

Mr. Wulff successfully mediated the \$2.75 billion agreement between Discover, MasterCard and Visa. He also mediated the \$1.1 billion class action settlement of the Microsoft antitrust claims in California.

In 2004, after a nationwide search for several months, Mr. Wulff was selected by the Chief Judge in the Southern District of New York to lead the panel that heard and decided the property damage claims for the World Trade Center arising from the tragedy on September 11. This included reconstruction costs as well as business interruption claims. These insurance claims were roughly four times larger than any other in the history of the industry.

Mr. Wulff is co-editor of two books, the Alternative Dispute Resolution Practice Guide (West Group 1993-2003), as well as a second book devoted specifically to ADR for the construction industry, both being marketed nationally. He has also published numerous articles on alternative dispute resolution ("ADR"), and contributed the chapter on "Mediation" to the nationally published ADR Handbook. He has spoken on mediation at numerous national and international conferences and conventions.

Mr. Wulff regularly appears in each annual selection of <u>Best Lawyers In America</u>, <u>SuperLawyers</u> and other similar published evaluations. He is one of two mediators in California to receive a first tier rating from Chambers & Partners for construction mediation.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1974 - 2000 Farella, Braun & Martel

1980 - 1999 Partner in the firm

1994 - Present Full-time neutral

EDUCATION

J.D., 1974, University of California, Hastings College of the Law. Extern to Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court, 1973, Order of the Coif, Law Review.

B.A., 1970, Honors College of University of Oregon. 1968-69, attended Netherlands Institute of International Business.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS

Selected as the Mediation Society's "Mediator of the Year" in 2004; selected as AAA's outstanding mediator in Northern California in 1990; regularly selected among the "top" mediators in polls by legal periodicals, <u>The Recorder</u> and the <u>Daily Journal</u>; Member of Alameda County Bar and American Bar groups on ADR. Past member of Adjunct Faculty at Hastings College of the Law, having taught courses in Trial Practice and Complex Litigation.

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

Commercial:

Selected in 2004 to lead the panel that will hear and decide the property damage claims for the World Trade Center complex arising from the tragedy on September 11, 2001, numerous disputes involving high technology, antitrust (including \$1.1 billion settlement of Microsoft class action and \$2.9 billion settlement of Discover v. MasterCard/Visa), securities, intellectual property, limited partnerships and real estate, employment issues, environmental, SuperFund cleanups, energy lease or royalty disputes, legal and accounting malpractice claims, insurance coverage, general contractual disagreements.

Construction:

Claims arising from construction of subway stations, dams, hydroelectric facilities, Golden State Warriors' Arena renovation; Arizona Diamondback's ballpark, Safeco Field, Staples Center (LA Lakers' and Clippers' arena), Disney Concert Hall, highways, resort hotels, cogeneration plants, chemical plants, water treatment plants, chip fabrication facilities, tunnels and pipelines, offshore oil platform, hospitals, and various high-rise buildings and other structures, both commercial and residential.

LECTURES ON ADR

National or international conventions or conferences include presentations for the Construction SuperConference, the PLI Copyright Trademark Conference; the Construction Users Council of

the Business Roundtable, the Engineering News Record Conference, the International Symposium on Dispute Resolution, the International Association of Defense Counsel, the ABA Energy Litigation Committee, the ABA forum, the nationally televised CLESN program on Dispute Resolution, the Mechanical Contractors Association of America, the DPIC Convocation and the Forbes Conference on International Infrastructure.

Regional presentations include keynote speaker to the Hawaii State Bar Convention and programs for the California Society of CPA's, the California Bar, the Risk and Insurance Management Society, the Associated General Contractors, Caltrans, the California County Counsel's Association, the Asia/Pacific Center and the Defense Research Institute.

Local presentations on ADR include programs for the Bay Area Executives Group, Hastings College of Advocacy, the Bar Association of San Francisco, the Mediation Society and numerous local programs and mediator trainings.

PUBLICATIONS ON ADR

Co-Editor, ADR: A Practical Guide to Resolve Construction Disputes, book published and nationally marketed in 1993.

Co-Editor, The Alternative Dispute Resolution Practice Guide (West Group 1993-2003).

Author, "A Mediation Primer," ADR Practice Guide, Wiley and Sons, 1990.

Author, "Alternative Dispute Resolution," ABA Energy Committee Newsletter, 1995.

Co-Author, "Tips for A Successful Construction Mediation," DART Occasional Papers, 1994.

Author, "Mediation," Assn. Of Business Trial Lawyers Report, November, 1993.

Co-author, chapter on Arbitration, California ADR Practice Guide, Shepherds/McGraw-Hill, 1992.

Author, "Approaching Your Opponent about Mediating," AAA Mediation and Arbitration Handbook, 1991.

Author, "Mediation of Construction Claims," AAA Mediation and Arbitration Handbook, 1991.

Co-author, "Mediation and Arbitration of Construction Claims," Digger Reporter, July 1991.

Author, "A Shortcut to Settlement," The Recorder, August 1988.

Author, "Mediation—An Easier Solution," Engineers At The Bar, April 1988.

Author, "Why Haven't You Tried Mediation?", Barristers Law Journal, Vol. 6, No. 10, December 1987.

REFERENCES

A lengthy list of specific references from counsel and parties in cases where Mr. Wulff has acted as mediator is on our website, www.wqsadr.com.

EXHIBIT B

HON. OLIVER W. WANGER (U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE [RET.]) CV

Education

Colorado School of Mines (1958-1960)

B.S., University of Southern California (1963)

L.L.B., University of California (Boalt Hall) (1966)

Judicial

United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California 1991-2011

Pro Tem Trial and Settlement Judge, Superior Court of California, County of Fresno (1986-91)

Arbitration, Mediation, Private Trials

FedArb - Arbitrator, Mediator, Trial Consultant, Private Judge American Arbitration Association: Panel Member International Center for Dispute Resolution, Large Complex Case Panel, Construction Industry Panel, Labor/Employment Panels

Expert Witness

Qualified in State and Federal Courts and Arbitrations,
Judicial Ethics, Performance, and Standards; Attorney
Ethics and Professional Conduct, Standards of Care,
Attorneys' Fees and Billing; Insurance Coverage Issues Tripartite Relationship, Cummis and Buss Issues; Trial
Practice and Performance

Professional

Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers (by invitation only limited to 1% of U.S. trial lawyers)

Fellow, International Academy of Trial Lawyers (by invitation only limited to 500 trial lawyers worldwide)

Advocate, American Board of Trial Advocates

Former President of San Joaquin Valley Chapter American
Board of Trial Advocates and National Director, ABOTA

Founder and Diplomate of the American Board of Professional Liability Attorneys

Founder and First President, San Joaquin Valley Inn of Court Founder and Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America (Rank of Centurion) (Emeritus)

Former Certified Civil Trial Specialist by the National Board of Trial Advocacy

Shareholder, Wanger Jones Helsley PC (2011-present)
Partner, McCormick, Barstow, Sheppard, Wayte & Carruth,

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Fresno, CA (1974-1991)

Partner, Gallagher, Baker & Manock, Fresno, CA (1969-1974)
Deputy District Attorney, County of Fresno (1967-1969)
Tried as lead counsel or presided over more than 600 jury trials to verdict, Federal-State Courts

Auditor for City of Fresno - Fresno Police Department Video Surveillance Program (2012-2016)

Expert Witness - Legal Ethics, Professional Responsibilities,
Judicial Ethics, Trial Practice Consulting, Courtroom
Performance, Standards of Care, Attorney's Fees,
Insurance - Bad Faith, Tri Partite Relationship; Coverage;
Duties and Responsibilities in Cumis and Buss Issue Cases

Academic

Co-Founder, Former President (1980-1995), Chairman of the Board of Trustees (1982-1995), Dean of the Law School (1980-1982); Adjunct Professor of Law (1970-1994, 2011) (Civil Procedure, Constitutional Torts, Trial Practice, Federal Courts, Remedies, Real Property); Teacher of the Year (1991), San Joaquin College of Law

Adjunct Professor of Law, Humphreys College of Law (1968-69) Criminal Law and Procedure

Moderator and Instructor, numerous California C.E.B.,
Rutter Group, and California Judges Association
programs on trial practice, civil procedure,
trial evidence, and jury selection; frequent speaker on
water law issues in California, before Association of
California Water Agencies, California Citrus Mutual,
Southern California Water Committee, Association of
California Water Agencies, and ABA 2012 30th Annual Water
Law Conference; Western Growers Annual Conference 2015;
State Bar Annual Environmental Law Conference, Panelist;
Speaker and Panelist - Eastern District of California
Judicial Conferences (2006-2011)

Arbitration, Mediation, Private Trials 2012-present

Awards

Congressional Tribute, U.S. House of Representatives (2011)

American Board of Trial Advocates Civility Award for Integrity, Professionalism and Civility (2018)

Marquis Who's Who Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award for Career Longevity and Demonstrated Unwavering Excellence (2018); Humanitarian Award (2019)

Honorable Robert E. Coyle Professionalism Award,

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Federal Bar Association (San Joaquin Valley) (2015)

Bernard Witkin Lifetime Achievement Award, Fresno County Bar Association (2012)

Benchmark Litigation California 2019 California Litigation Star, Environmental/Land Use/Water Rights Noted Star

America's Most Honored Professionals Top 1% (2016)

America's Top 100 Attorneys Lifetime Achievement Northern California (2017)

Top 100 Registry Business Leaders and Professionals
2019 Attorney of the Year
Lifetime Ashievement Award in Regegnition and

Lifetime Achievement Award in Recognition and Appreciation of Exemplary Accomplishments and Contributions in the Field of Law

Top 100 Registry 2018 Professional of the Year (2018)

Martindale Hubbell 25 Year Preeminent Rating, 5 of 5, in Legal Ability and Ethical Standards (Highest)

Fresno NAACP Image Award (2005)

Central California Legal Services Champion of Justice Award (2005)

Hugh Goodwin Bar Association Founders Award (2002)

Beta Gamma Sigma (Business Honorary Society)

Phi Alpha Delta (Honorary Member)

Top Attorneys in Northern California Super Lawyer (2012-2019)

Top 100 Lawyers in Northern California Super Lawyers (2012-2013, 2018-2019)

Los Angeles Daily Journal Top 100 California Lawyers (2008)

Military

United States Marine Corps Reserve (1960-67), Sergeant E-5

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SERVICE LIST FOR ALL PARTIES AND AMICI CURIAE



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AMICI

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	PETER AUH Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority P.O. Box 568 Albuquerque, NM 87103-0568	aw.com pauh@abcwua.org (505) 289-3092
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	Shannon Gifford – Legal Assistant	shannong@modrall.com
	RENEA HICKS	rhicks@renea-hicks.com
	LAW OFFICE OF MAX RENEA HICKS	(512)480-8231
	P.O. Box 303187 Austin, TX 78703-0504	
Elephant Butte Irrigation	SAMANTHA R. BARNCASTLE*	samantha@h2o-legal.com
District	BARNCASTLE LAW FIRM, LLC	(575)636-2377
	1100 South Main, Suite 20 (88005)	Fax: (575) 636-2688
	P.O. Box 1556	
	Las Cruces, NM 88004	
	Janet Correll - Paralegal	janet@h2o-legal.com
Hudspeth County	ANDREW S. "DREW" MILLER*	dmiller@kempsmith.com
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