



THE RESOLUTION EXPERTS

Revised April 2003

# JAMS STREAMLINED ARBITRATION RULES & PROCEDURES

## STREAMLINED ARBITRATION RULES & PROCEDURES

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### **Rule 1. Scope of Rules**

(a) The JAMS Streamlined Arbitration Rules and Procedures (“Rules”) govern binding Arbitrations of disputes or claims that are administered by JAMS and in which the Parties agree to use these Rules or, in the absence of such agreement, no disputed claim or counterclaim exceeds \$250,000, not including interest or attorneys’ fees, unless other Rules are prescribed.

(b) The Parties shall be deemed to have made these Rules a part of their Arbitration agreement whenever they have provided for Arbitration by JAMS under its Streamlined Rules or for Arbitration by JAMS without specifying any particular JAMS Rules and the disputes or claims meet the criteria of the first paragraph of this Rule.

(c) The term “Party” as used in these Rules includes Parties to the Arbitration and their counsel or representative.

### **Rule 2. Party-Agreed Procedures**

The Parties may agree on any procedures not specified herein or in lieu of these Rules that are consistent with the applicable law and JAMS policies (including, without limitation, Rules 12(j), 25 and 26). The Parties shall promptly notify the JAMS Case Manager of any such Party-agreed procedures and shall confirm such procedures in writing. The Party-agreed procedures shall be enforceable as if contained in these Rules.

### **Rule 3. Amendment of Rules**

JAMS may amend these Rules without notice. The Rules in effect on the date of the commencement of an Arbitration (as defined in Rule 5) shall apply to that Arbitration, unless the Parties have specified another version of the Rules.

### **Rule 4. Conflict with Law**

If any of these Rules, or a modification of these Rules agreed on by the Parties, is determined to be in conflict with a provision of applicable law, the provision of law will govern, and no other Rule will be affected.

### **Rule 5. Commencing an Arbitration**

(a) The Arbitration is deemed commenced when JAMS confirms in a Commencement Letter one of the following:

(i) The submission to JAMS of a post-dispute Arbitration agreement fully executed by all Parties and that specifies JAMS administration or use of any JAMS Rules; or

(ii) The submission to JAMS of a pre-dispute written contractual provision requiring the Parties to arbitrate the dispute or claim and which specifies JAMS administration or use of any JAMS Rules or which the Parties agree shall be administered by JAMS; or

(iii) The oral agreement of all Parties to participate in an Arbitration administered by JAMS or conducted pursuant to any JAMS Rules, confirmed in writing by the Parties; or

(iv) A court order compelling Arbitration at JAMS.

(b) The Commencement Letter shall confirm that one of the above requirements for commencement has been met and that JAMS has received any payment required under the applicable fee schedule. The date of commencement of the Arbitration is the date of the Commencement Letter.

(c) If a Party who has signed a pre-dispute written contractual provision specifying these Rules or JAMS administration fails to agree to

participate in the Arbitration process, JAMS shall confirm in writing that Party's failure to respond or participate and, pursuant to Rule 17, the Arbitrator shall schedule, and provide appropriate notice of a Hearing or other opportunity for the Party demanding the Arbitration to demonstrate its entitlement to relief.

(d) The definition of "commencement" in these Rules is not intended to be applicable to any legal requirement, such as the statute of limitations or a contractual limitations period, unless actually so specified by that requirement.

### **Rule 6. Preliminary Conference**

(a) The Case Manager may conduct an Administrative Conference with the Parties by telephone. The Administrative Conference may occur within seven (7) calendar days after the date of commencement of the Arbitration. If the Administrative Conference does not take place within the time specified above, unless the Parties agree otherwise, the Case Manager shall proceed with the Arbitrator selection process pursuant to Rule 12 as if the Administrative Conference had, in fact, been held.

(b) The Case Manager shall answer any questions regarding these Rules and may discuss procedural matters such as the pleading or notice of claim sequence, Arbitrator selection, the Preliminary Conference process and the expectations of the Parties as to the length of the Arbitration Hearing. The Parties may agree to a date for the Hearing subject to Arbitrator availability. In the absence of agreement, the Hearing date shall be set by the Arbitrator pursuant to Rule 14.

(c) At the request of a Party and in the absence of Party agreement, JAMS may make a determination regarding the location of the Hearing, subject to Arbitrator review. In determining the location of the Hearing such factors as the subject matter of the dispute, the convenience of the Parties and witnesses and the relative resources of the Parties shall be considered.

### **Rule 7. Notice of Claims**

(a) If a matter has been submitted for Arbitration after litigation has been commenced in court regarding the same claim or dispute, the pleadings in the court case, including the complaint and answer (with affirmative defenses and counterclaims), may be filed with JAMS within seven (7) calendar days of the date of commencement, and if so filed, will be considered part of the record of the Arbitration. It will be assumed that the existence of such pleadings constitutes appropriate notice to the Parties of such claims, remedies sought, counterclaims and affirmative defenses. If necessary, such notice may be supplemented pursuant to Rule 7(b).

(b) If a matter has been submitted to JAMS prior to, or in lieu of, the filing of a case in court or prior to the filing of an answer, the Parties shall give each other notice of their respective claims, remedies sought, counterclaims and affirmative defenses (including jurisdictional challenges). Such notice may be served upon the other Parties and filed with JAMS, in the form of a demand for Arbitration, response or answer to demand for Arbitration, counterclaim or answer or response to counterclaim. Any pleading shall include a short statement of its factual basis.

(c) Notice of claims, remedies sought, counterclaims and affirmative defenses may be served simultaneously, in which case they should be filed with JAMS within seven (7) calendar days of the date of commencement of the Arbitration, or by such other date as the Parties may agree. The responding Parties may, however, in their sole discretion, wait to receive the notice of claim before serving any response, including counterclaims or affirmative defenses. In this case, the response, including counterclaims and affirmative defenses, should be served on the other Parties and filed with JAMS within seven (7) calendar days of service of the notice of claim. If the notice of claim has been served on the responding Parties prior to the date of commencement, the response, including counterclaims and affirmative defenses, shall be served within seven (7) calendar days from the date of commencement.

(d) Any Party that is a recipient of a counterclaim may reply to such counterclaim, including asserting jurisdictional challenges. In such case, the reply must be served on the other Parties and filed with JAMS within seven (7) calendar days of having received the notice of counterclaim. No claim, remedy, counterclaim or affirmative defense will be considered by the Arbitrator in the absence of prior notice to the other Parties, unless all Parties agree that such consideration is appropriate notwithstanding the lack of prior notice.

### **Rule 8. Interpretation of Rules and Jurisdiction Challenges**

(a) Once appointed, the Arbitrator shall resolve disputes about the interpretation and applicability of these Rules and conduct of the Arbitration Hearing. The resolution of the issue by the Arbitrator shall be final.

(b) Whenever in these Rules a matter is to be determined by “JAMS” (such as in Rules 6(c), 12(d), (e), (h) or (j), or 26(e)), such determination shall be made in accordance with JAMS’ administrative procedures.

(c) Jurisdictional and arbitrability disputes, including disputes over the existence, validity, interpretation or scope of the agreement under which Arbitration is sought, and who are proper Parties to the Arbitration, shall be submitted to and ruled on by the Arbitrator. The Arbitrator has the authority to determine jurisdiction and arbitrability issues as a preliminary matter.

(d) Disputes concerning the appointment of the Arbitrator and the venue of the Arbitration, if that determination is relevant to the selection of the Arbitrator, shall be resolved by JAMS.

(e) The Arbitrator may upon a showing of good cause or *sua sponte*, when necessary to facilitate the Arbitration, extend any deadlines established in these Rules, provided that the time for rendering the Award may only be altered in accordance with Rule 19.

### **Rule 9. Representation**

The Parties may be represented by counsel or any other person of the Party’s choice. Each Party shall give prompt written notice to the Case Manager and the other Parties of the name, address and telephone and fax numbers of its representative. The representative of a Party may act on the Party’s behalf in complying with these Rules.

### **Rule 10. Withdrawal from Arbitration**

(a) No Party may terminate or withdraw from an Arbitration after the issuance of the Commencement Letter (see Rule 5) except by written agreement of all Parties to the Arbitration.

(b) A Party that asserts a claim or counterclaim may unilaterally withdraw that claim or counterclaim without prejudice by serving written notice on the other Parties and on the Arbitrator. However, the opposing Parties may, within fourteen (14) calendar days of service of notice of the withdrawal of the claim or counterclaim, request that the Arbitrator order that the withdrawal be with prejudice.

### **Rule 11. Ex Parte Communications**

No Party will have any *ex parte* communication with the Arbitrator regarding any issue related to the Arbitration. Any necessary *ex parte* communication with JAMS, whether before or after the Arbitration Hearing, will be conducted through the Case Manager.

### **Rule 12. Arbitrator Selection and Replacement**

(a) JAMS Streamlined Arbitrations will be conducted by one neutral Arbitrator.

(b) Unless the Arbitrator has been previously selected by agreement of the Parties, the Case Manager at the Administrative Conference may attempt to facilitate agreement among the Parties regarding selection of the Arbitrator.

(c) If the Parties do not agree on an Arbitrator, the Case Manager shall send the Parties a list of at least three (3) Arbitrator candidates. The Case Manager shall also provide each Party

with a brief description of the background and experience of each Arbitrator candidate.

(d) Within seven (7) calendar days of service by the Parties of the list of names, each Party may strike one name and shall rank the remaining Arbitrator candidates in order of preference. The remaining Arbitrator candidate with the highest composite ranking shall be appointed the Arbitrator.

(e) If this process does not yield an Arbitrator, JAMS shall designate the Arbitrator.

(f) If a Party fails to respond to the list of Arbitrator candidates within seven (7) calendar days of service by the Parties of the list, the Case Manager shall deem that Party to have accepted all of the Arbitrator candidates.

(g) Entities whose interests are not adverse with respect to the issues in dispute shall be treated as a single Party for purposes of the Arbitrator selection process. JAMS shall determine whether the interests between entities are adverse for purposes of Arbitrator selection, considering such factors as whether the entities are represented by the same attorney and whether the entities are presenting joint or separate positions at the Arbitration.

(h) If, for any reason, the Arbitrator who is selected is unable to fulfill the Arbitrator's duties, a successor Arbitrator shall be chosen in accordance with this Rule. JAMS will make the final determination as to whether an Arbitrator is unable to fulfill his or her duties, and that decision shall be final.

(i) Any disclosures regarding the selected Arbitrator shall be made as required by law or within ten (10) calendar days from the date of appointment. The obligation of the Arbitrator to make all required disclosures continues throughout the Arbitration process.

(j) At any time during the Arbitration process, a Party may challenge the continued service of an Arbitrator for cause. The challenge must be based upon information that was not available

to the Parties at the time the Arbitrator was selected. A challenge for cause must be in writing and exchanged with opposing Parties who may respond within seven (7) days of service of the challenge. JAMS shall make the final determination on such challenge. Such determination shall take into account the materiality of the facts and any prejudice to the parties. That decision will be final.

### **Rule 13. Exchange of Information**

(a) The Parties shall cooperate in good faith in the voluntary, prompt and informal exchange of all non-privileged documents and information relevant to the dispute or claim, including copies of all documents in their possession or control on which they rely in support of their positions or which they intend to introduce as exhibits at the Arbitration Hearing, the names of all individuals with knowledge about the dispute or claim and the names of all experts who may be called upon to testify or whose report may be introduced at the Arbitration Hearing. The Parties and the Arbitrator will make every effort to conclude the document and information exchange process within fourteen (14) calendar days after all pleadings or notices of claims have been received. The necessity of additional information exchange shall be determined by the Arbitrator based upon the reasonable need for the requested information, the availability of other discovery options and the burdensomeness of the request on the opposing Parties and the witness.

(b) As they become aware of new documents or information, including experts who may be called upon to testify, all Parties continue to be obligated to provide relevant, non-privileged documents, to supplement their identification of witnesses and experts and to honor any informal agreements or understandings between the Parties regarding documents or information to be exchanged. Documents that have not been previously exchanged, or witnesses and experts not previously identified, may not be considered by the Arbitrator at the Hearing, unless agreed by the Parties or upon a showing of good cause.

(c) The Parties shall promptly notify the Case Manager when an unresolved dispute exists regarding discovery issues. The Case Manager shall arrange a conference with the Arbitrator, either by telephone or in person, and the Arbitrator shall decide the dispute.

#### **Rule 14. Scheduling and Location of Hearing**

(a) The Arbitrator, after consulting with the Parties that have appeared, shall determine the date and time of the Hearing. The Arbitrator and the Parties shall attempt to schedule consecutive Hearing days if more than one day is necessary.

(b) If a Party has failed to answer a claim and the Arbitrator reasonably believes that the Party will not participate in the Hearing, the Arbitrator may set the Hearing without consulting with that Party. The non-participating Party shall be served with a Notice of Hearing at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the scheduled date unless the law of the relevant jurisdiction allows for shorter notice.

#### **Rule 15. Pre-Hearing Submissions**

(a) By at least seven (7) calendar days before the Arbitration Hearing, the Parties shall exchange a list of the witnesses they intend to call, including any experts, a short description of the anticipated testimony of each such witness, an estimate of the length of the witness's direct testimony, and a list of exhibits. In addition, at least seven (7) calendar days before the Arbitration Hearing, the Parties shall exchange copies of all exhibits intended to be used at the Hearing to the extent that any such exhibit has not been previously exchanged. The Parties should pre-mark exhibits and should attempt themselves to resolve any disputes regarding the admissibility of exhibits prior to the Hearing. The list of witnesses with the description and estimate of length of their testimony and the copies of all exhibits that the Parties intend to use at the Hearing, in pre-marked form, should also be provided to JAMS for transmission to the Arbitrator, whether or not the Parties have stipulated to the admissibility of all such exhibits.

(b) The Arbitrator may require that each Party submit concise written statements of position, including summaries of the facts and evidence a Party intends to present, discussion of the applicable law and the basis for the requested Award or denial of relief sought. The statements, which may be in the form of a letter, shall be filed with JAMS and served upon the other Parties, at least seven (7) calendar days before the Hearing date. Rebuttal statements or other pre-Hearing written submissions may be permitted or required at the discretion of the Arbitrator.

#### **Rule 16. Securing Witnesses and Documents for the Arbitration Hearing**

At the written request of another Party, all other Parties shall produce for the Arbitration Hearing all specified witnesses in their employ or under their control without need of subpoena. The Arbitrator may issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses or the production of documents. Pre-issued subpoenas may be used in jurisdictions which permit them. In the event a Party or a subpoenaed person objects to the production of a witness or other evidence, the Party may file an objection with the Arbitrator, who will promptly rule on the objection, weighing both the burden on the producing Party and the need of the proponent for the witness or other evidence.

#### **Rule 17. The Arbitration Hearing**

(a) The Arbitrator will ordinarily conduct the Arbitration Hearing in the manner set forth in these Rules. The Arbitrator may vary these procedures if it is determined reasonable and appropriate to do so.

(b) The Arbitrator shall determine the order of proof, which will generally be similar to that of a court trial.

(c) The Arbitrator shall require witnesses to testify under oath if requested by any Party, or otherwise in the discretion of the Arbitrator.

(d) Strict conformity to the rules of evidence is not required, except that the Arbitrator shall apply applicable law relating to privileges and

work product. The Arbitrator shall consider evidence that he or she finds relevant and material to the dispute, giving the evidence such weight as is appropriate. The Arbitrator may be guided in that determination by principles contained in the Federal Rules of Evidence or any other applicable rules of evidence. The Arbitrator may limit testimony to exclude evidence that would be immaterial or unduly repetitive, provided that all Parties are afforded the opportunity to present material and relevant evidence.

(e) The Arbitrator shall receive and consider relevant deposition testimony recorded by transcript or videotape, provided that the other Parties have had the opportunity to attend and cross-examine. The Arbitrator may in his or her discretion consider witness affidavits or other recorded testimony even if the other Parties have not had the opportunity to cross-examine, but will give that evidence only such weight as the Arbitrator deems appropriate.

(f) The Parties will not offer as evidence, and the Arbitrator shall neither admit into the record nor consider, prior settlement offers by the Parties or statements or recommendations made by a mediator or other person in connection with efforts to resolve the dispute being arbitrated, except to the extent that applicable law permits the admission of such evidence.

(g) The Hearing or any portion thereof may be conducted telephonically with the agreement of the Parties or in the discretion of the Arbitrator.

(h) When the Arbitrator determines that all relevant and material evidence and arguments have been presented, the Arbitrator shall declare the Hearing closed. Post-Hearing briefs will not be allowed, unless the Parties and the Arbitrator agree that they are necessary. The Arbitrator may defer the closing of the Hearing until a date agreed upon by the Arbitrator and the Parties, to permit the Parties to submit post-Hearing briefs, which may be in the form of a letter. If post-Hearing briefs are to be submitted the Hearing shall be deemed closed upon receipt by the Arbitrator of such briefs.

(i) The Arbitrator may proceed with the Hearing in the absence of a Party who executed an Arbitration agreement, or who is otherwise bound to arbitrate, and who after receiving notice of the Hearing pursuant to Rule 14, fails to attend. The Arbitrator may not render an Award solely on the basis of the default or absence of the Party, but shall require any Party seeking relief to submit such evidence as the Arbitrator may require for the rendering of an Award. If the Arbitrator reasonably believes that a Party will not attend the Hearing, the Arbitrator may schedule the Hearing as a telephonic Hearing and may receive the evidence necessary to render an Award by affidavit. The notice of Hearing shall specify if it will be in person or telephonic.

(j) Any Party may arrange for a stenographic or other record be made of the Hearing and shall inform the other Parties in advance of the Hearing.

(i) The requesting Party shall bear the cost of such stenographic record. If all other Parties agree to share the cost of the stenographic record, it shall be made available to the Arbitrator and may be used in the proceeding.

(ii) If there is no agreement to share the cost of the stenographic record, it may be provided to the Arbitrator and may not be used in the proceeding unless the Party arranging for the stenographic record either agrees to provide access to the stenographic record at no charge or on terms that are acceptable to the Parties and the reporting service.

(iii) The Parties may agree that the cost of the stenographic record shall or shall not be allocated by the Arbitrator in the Award.

### **Rule 18. Waiver of Hearing**

The Parties may agree to waive oral Hearing and submit the dispute to the Arbitrator for an Award based on written submissions and other evidence as the Parties may agree.

### **Rule 19. The Award**

(a) Absent good cause for an extension and except as provided in Rule 26(d), the Arbitrator shall render the Award within thirty (30) calendar days after the date of the closing of the Hearing (as defined in Rule 17(h)) or, if a Hearing has been waived, within thirty (30) calendar days after the receipt by the Arbitrator of all materials specified by the Parties. The Arbitrator shall provide the Award to the Case Manager for issuance in accordance with this rule.

(b) Unless the Parties specify a different standard, in determining the Award the Arbitrator shall be guided by principles of law and equity as applied to the facts found at the Arbitration Hearing. The Arbitrator may grant any remedy or relief that is just and equitable and within the scope of the Parties' agreement, including but not limited to specific performance of a contract.

(c) In addition to the final Award, the Arbitrator may make other decisions, including interim or partial rulings, orders and Awards.

(d) The Arbitrator may take whatever interim measures are deemed necessary, including injunctive relief and measures for the protection or conservation of property and disposition of disposable goods. Such interim measures may take the form of an interim Award, and the Arbitrator may require security for the costs of such measures. Any recourse by a Party to a court for interim or provisional relief shall not be deemed incompatible with the agreement to arbitrate or a waiver of the right to arbitrate.

(e) In any Award, order or ruling, the Arbitrator may also assess Arbitration fees, Arbitrator compensation and expenses if provided by agreement of the Parties, allowed by applicable law or pursuant to Rule 26(c), in favor of any Party.

(f) The Award will consist of a written statement signed by the Arbitrator regarding the disposition of each claim and the relief, if any, as to each claim. Unless all Parties agree otherwise, the Award shall also contain a

concise written statement of the reasons for the Award.

(g) After the Award has been rendered, and provided the Parties have complied with Rule 26, the Award shall be issued by serving copies on the Parties. Service may be made by U.S. Mail. It need not be sent certified or registered.

(h) Within seven (7) calendar days after issuance of the Award, any Party may serve upon the other Parties and on JAMS a request that the Arbitrator correct any computational, typographical or other error in an Award (including the reallocation of fees pursuant to Rule 26(c)), or the Arbitrator may *sua sponte* propose to correct such errors in an Award. A Party opposing such correction shall have seven (7) calendar days in which to file any objection. The Arbitrator may make any necessary and appropriate correction to the Award within fourteen (14) calendar days of receiving a request or seven (7) calendar days after the Arbitrator's proposal to do so. The corrected Award shall be served upon the Parties in the same manner as the Award.

(i) The Award is considered final, for purposes of judicial proceeding to enforce, modify or vacate the Award pursuant to Rule 20, fourteen (14) calendar days after service is deemed effective if no request for a correction is made, or as of the effective date of service of a corrected Award.

### **Rule 20. Enforcement of the Award**

Proceedings to enforce, confirm, modify or vacate an Award will be controlled by and conducted in conformity with the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. Sec 1 *et. seq.* or applicable state law.

### **Rule 21. Confidentiality and Privacy**

(a) The Case Manager and the Arbitrator shall maintain the confidential nature of the Arbitration proceeding and the Award, including the Hearing, except as necessary in connection with a judicial challenge to or enforcement of an Award, or unless otherwise required by law or judicial decision.



(b) The Arbitrator may issue orders to protect the confidentiality of proprietary information, trade secrets or other sensitive information.

(c) Subject to the discretion of the Arbitrator or agreement of the Parties, any person having a direct interest in the Arbitration may attend the Arbitration Hearing. The Arbitrator may exclude any non-Party from any part of a Hearing.

### **Rule 22. Waiver**

(a) If a Party becomes aware of a violation of or failure to comply with these Rules and fails promptly to object in writing, the objection will be deemed waived, unless the Arbitrator determines that waiver will cause substantial injustice or hardship.

(b) If any Party becomes aware of information that could be the basis of a challenge for cause to the continued service of the Arbitrator, such challenge must be made promptly, in writing, to the Arbitrator or JAMS. Failure to do so shall constitute a waiver of any objection to continued service by the Arbitrator.

### **Rule 23. Settlement and Consent Award**

(a) The Parties may agree, at any stage of the Arbitration process, to submit the case to JAMS for mediation. The JAMS mediator assigned to the case may not be the Arbitrator, unless the Parties so agree pursuant to Rule 23 (b).

(b) The Parties may agree to seek the assistance of the Arbitrator in reaching settlement. By their written agreement to submit the matter to the Arbitrator for settlement assistance, the Parties will be deemed to have agreed that the assistance of the Arbitrator in such settlement efforts will not disqualify the Arbitrator from continuing to serve as Arbitrator if settlement is not reached; nor shall such assistance be argued to a reviewing court as the basis for vacating or modifying an Award.

(c) If, at any stage of the Arbitration process, all Parties agree upon a settlement of the issues in dispute and request the Arbitrator to

embody the agreement in a Consent Award, the Arbitrator shall comply with such request unless the Arbitrator believes the terms of the agreement are illegal or undermine the integrity of the Arbitration process. If the Arbitrator is concerned about the possible consequences of the proposed Consent Award, he or she shall inform the Parties of that concern and may request additional specific information from the Parties regarding the proposed Consent Award. The Arbitrator may refuse to enter the proposed Consent Award and may withdraw from the case.

### **Rule 24. Sanctions**

The Arbitrator may order appropriate sanctions for failure of a Party to comply with its obligations under any of these Rules. These sanctions may include, but are not limited to, assessment of costs, exclusion of certain evidence, or in extreme cases ruling on an issue submitted to Arbitration adversely to the Party who has failed to comply.

### **Rule 25. Disqualification of the Arbitrator as a Witness or Party and Exclusion of Liability**

(a) The Parties may not call the Arbitrator, the Case Manager or any other JAMS employee or agent as a witness or as an expert in any pending or subsequent litigation or other proceeding involving the Parties and relating to the dispute that is the subject of the Arbitration. The Arbitrator, Case Manager and other JAMS employees and agents are also incompetent to testify as witnesses or experts in any such proceeding.

(b) The Parties shall defend and/or pay the cost (including any attorneys' fees) of defending the Arbitrator, Case Manager and/or JAMS from any subpoenas from outside Parties arising from the Arbitration.

(c) The Parties agree that neither the Arbitrator, Case Manager nor JAMS is a necessary Party in any litigation or other proceeding relating to the Arbitration or the subject matter of the Arbitration, and neither the Arbitrator, Case Manager nor JAMS, including its employees or agents, shall be liable to any Party

for any act or omission in connection with any Arbitration conducted under these Rules, including but not limited to a recusal by the Arbitrator.

### **Rule 26. Fees**

(a) Each Party shall pay its pro-rata share of JAMS fees and expenses as set forth in the JAMS fee schedule in effect at the time of the commencement of the Arbitration, unless the Parties agree on a different allocation of fees and expenses. JAMS agreement to render services is jointly with the Party and the attorney or other representative of the Party in the Arbitration.

(b) JAMS requires that the Parties deposit the fees and expenses for the Arbitration prior to the Hearing and may preclude a Party that has failed to deposit its pro-rata or agreed-upon share of the fees and expenses from offering evidence of any affirmative claim at the Hearing. JAMS may waive the deposit requirement upon a showing of good cause.

(c) The Parties are jointly and severally liable for the payment of the fees and expenses of JAMS. In the event that one Party has paid more than its share of the fees, the Arbitrator may award against any other Party any costs or fees that such Party owes with respect to the Arbitration.

(d) JAMS may defer issuance of an Arbitration Award rendered by the Arbitrator if any and/or all outstanding invoices are not paid. If JAMS declines to issue an Arbitration Award in accordance with this Rule, it shall not be issued to any Party.

(e) Entities whose interests are not adverse with respect to the issues in dispute shall be treated as a single Party for purposes of JAMS' assessment of fees. JAMS shall determine whether the interests between entities are adverse for purpose of fees, considering such factors as whether the entities are represented by the same attorney and whether the entities are presenting joint or separate positions at the Arbitration.

### **Rule 27. Bracketed (or High-Low) Arbitration Option**

(a) At any time before the issuance of the Arbitration Award, the Parties may agree, in writing, on minimum and maximum amounts of damages that may be awarded on each claim or on all claims in the aggregate. The Parties shall promptly notify the Case Manager, and provide to the Case Manager a copy of their written agreement setting forth the agreed-upon maximum and minimum amounts.

(b) The Case Manager shall not inform the Arbitrator of the agreement to proceed with this option or of the agreed-upon minimum and maximum levels without the consent of the Parties.

(c) The Arbitrator shall render the Award in accordance with Rule 19.

(d) In the event that the Award of the Arbitrator is in between the agreed-upon minimum and maximum amounts, the Award shall become final as is. In the event that the Award is below the agreed-upon minimum amount, the final Award issued shall be corrected to reflect the agreed-upon minimum amount. In the event that the Award is above the agreed-upon maximum amount, the final Award issued shall be corrected to reflect the agreed-upon maximum amount.

### **Rule 28. Final Offer (or Baseball) Arbitration Option**

(a) Upon agreement of the Parties to use the option set forth in this Rule, at least seven (7) calendar days before the Arbitration Hearing, the Parties shall exchange and provide to the Case Manager written proposals for the amount of money damages they would offer or demand, as applicable, and that they believe to be appropriate based on the standard set forth in Rule 19 (b). The Case Manager shall promptly provide a copy of the Parties' proposals to the Arbitrator, unless the Parties agree that they should not be provided to the Arbitrator. At any time prior to the close of the Arbitration Hearing, the Parties may exchange revised written proposals or demands, which

shall supersede all prior proposals. The revised written proposals shall be provided to the Case Manager who shall promptly provide them to the Arbitrator, unless the Parties agree otherwise.

(b) If the Arbitrator has been informed of the written proposals, in rendering the Award the Arbitrator shall choose between the Parties' last proposals, selecting the proposal that the Arbitrator finds most reasonable and appropriate in light of the standard set forth in Rule 19(b). This provision modifies Rule 19(f) in that no written statement of reasons shall accompany the Award.

(c) If the Arbitrator has not been informed of the written proposals, the Arbitrator shall render the Award as if pursuant to Rule 19, except that the Award shall thereafter be corrected to conform to the closest of the last proposals, and the closest of the last proposals will become the Award.

(d) Other than as provided herein, the provisions of Rule 19 shall be applicable.

JAMS STREAMLINED ARBITRATION RULES & PROCEDURES



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