

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

WEATHERFORD INTERNATIONAL, LLC, WEATHERFORD/LAM, INC.,
WEATHERFORD US, LP, and WEATHERFORD ARTIFICIAL LIFT
SYSTEMS, LLC,
Petitioner,

v.

PACKERS PLUS ENERGY SERVICES, INC.,
Patent Owner.

Case IPR2016-01509
Patent 7,861,774 B2

NEIL T. POWELL, *Administrative Patent Judge.*

DECISION

Motion to Withdraw and Substitute New Counsel
37 C.F.R. § 42.10(e)

Rapid Completions LLC, the exclusive licensee of the '774 patent, filed a motion to withdraw counsel and substitute new counsel. Paper 7 ("Mot."). The Motion seeks authorization for withdrawal of Michael B. Ray, Lori A. Gordon, Kyle Conklin, and Steven Peters as counsel for Patent Owner. *Id.* at 1. The Motion also seeks to substitute as lead counsel Hamad M. Hamad and as back-up

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counsel Dr. Gregory J. Gonsalves, Bradley W. Caldwell, and Justin T. Nemunaitis.

Id. Along with the motion, Patent Owner filed a Power of Attorney, which appoints Hamad M. Hamad as lead counsel, and Dr. Gregory J. Gonsalves, Bradley W. Caldwell, and Justin T. Nemunaitis as backup counsel. Paper 8. The Motion notes that Hamad M. Hamad and Mr. Gonsalves meet the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 42.10(c) as registered practitioners. Mot. 1. No opposition has been filed, and Patent Owner indicates that Petitioner does not oppose the Motion. *Id.* at 1.

I am persuaded that withdrawal of Michael B. Ray, Lori A. Gordon, Kyle Conklin, and Steven Peters as counsel for Patent Owner is warranted. I am also persuaded that substitution of Hamad M. Hamad as lead counsel and Mr. Gonsalves as back-up counsel is warranted. Additionally, in decisions mailed concurrently, I am granting Rapid Completions' motions (papers 10, 11) for *pro hac vice* admission of Bradley W. Caldwell and Justin T. Nemunaitis.

It is therefore

ORDERED that withdrawal of Michael B. Ray, Lori A. Gordon, Kyle Conklin, and Steven Peters as counsel for Patent Owner is authorized; and

FURTHER ORDERED that the appearances of Hamad M. Hamad as lead counsel and of Mr. Gonsalves, Mr. Caldwell, and Mr. Nemunaitis as back-up counsel are acknowledged.

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