

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
HOUSTON DIVISION

GUI GLOBAL PRODUCTS, LTD.  
D/B/A GWEE

Plaintiff,

vs.

SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO., LTD.  
AND SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS  
AMERICA, INC.

Defendants.

§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§

CIVIL ACTION NO. 4:20-cv-2624  
HON. ALFRED H. BENETT

**JOINT MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE**

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 42 and Local Rule 7.5, Plaintiff GUI Global Products, Ltd. d/b/a Gwee (“Gwee” or “Plaintiff”) and Defendants Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. and Samsung Electronics America, Inc. (together, “Samsung”) respectfully move the Court to consolidate *Gui Global Products, Ltd. d/b/a Gwee v. Samsung Electronics Co., et al.*, Civil Action No. 4:20-cv-2624 (S.D. Tex.), currently pending before Judge Bennett, with *Gui Global Products, Ltd. d/b/a Gwee v. Apple Inc.*, Civil Action No. 4:20-cv-2652 (S.D. Tex.), currently pending before Judge Hanks, for pretrial purposes.

**BACKGROUND**

On July 27, 2020, Gwee filed suit for patent infringement against Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd.; Samsung Telecommunications America, LLC;<sup>1</sup> and Samsung Electronics America, Inc. in the Houston Division of the Southern District of Texas. The next day, July 28, Gwee filed suit

<sup>1</sup> Samsung Telecommunications America, LLC, has since been dismissed and the caption ordered amended by Oral Order of the Court on October 16, 2020.

against Apple Inc. (“Apple”) for patent infringement, also in the Houston Division of the Southern District of Texas. Gwee asserts that both cases involve similar facts and similar questions of law. Samsung asserts that at least the facts specific to Apple and Samsung will be different, but believes there would still be efficiencies in consolidation. Both cases were brought for patent infringement under 35 U.S.C. § 271 and both seek judgments of infringement and injunctive relief. In both cases, Gwee alleges infringement of the same four patents-in-suit: U.S. Patent Nos. 10,589,320; 10,562,077; 10,259,021; and 10,259,020. While joinder of Samsung and Apple (together, “Defendants”) for trial is not permitted under 35 U.S.C. § 299(b), consolidation for purposes of common discovery by the Defendants from Gwee and for claim construction will benefit the parties and will permit the Courts to avoid potentially inconsistent claim construction or validity rulings. *See, e.g., Auto-Dril, Inc. v. Canrig Drilling Tech., Ltd.*, 2015 WL 12780793, at \*4 (W.D. Tex., May 22, 2015) (holding that 35 U.S.C. § 299 does not bar consolidation for pre-trial matters, and collecting cases). Further, consolidating both cases for pretrial purposes promotes and advances judicial economy.

## ARGUMENT

Rule 42(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure provides that

If actions before the court involve a common question of law or fact, the court may:

- (1) join for hearing or trial any or all matters at issue in the actions;
- (2) consolidate the actions; or
- (3) issue any other orders to avoid unnecessary cost or delay.

The Fifth Circuit has noted that “Rule 42(a) should be used to . . . eliminate unnecessary repetition and confusion.” *Miller v. U.S. Postal Serv.*, 729 F.2d 1033, 1036 (5th Cir. 1984). This case is ripe for pre-trial consolidation given the common patents-in-suit to be construed, potential validity

issues to be decided, and the common disclosures and discovery Gwee will provide to Samsung and Apple.

Consolidation would permit a single judge of this District, rather than two, to become familiar with the patents-in-suit while avoiding potentially inconsistent decisions on, for example, claim construction, validity and priority dates for the patents-in-suit. Efficiency would also be furthered by coordinated discovery by Defendants from Gwee on issues common to both Defendants. Further, judicial efficiency will be advanced by having one court rule on common discovery issues, claim construction, validity and priority dates. No party would be prejudiced by pretrial consolidation, and both cases are in their infancy. In *Samsung*, Judge Bennett held a scheduling conference on October 16 and entered a scheduling order the same day. Dkt. No. 38. In *Apple*, the parties appeared before Judge Hanks on October 19 and a schedule for discovery and briefing of Apple's motion to transfer will be set shortly per Judge Hank's instructions. Further, Samsung has represented that it too will seek transfer, and Gwee will presumably seek a similar period of venue discovery once Samsung files its venue motion. The cases should synchronize easily once the venue issues are decided. Regardless, it is Gwee's position that while the Apple case may lag behind the Samsung case by a matter of weeks, the scheduling order entered in the *Samsung* case was designed to provide some time for the *Apple* motion to transfer venue to be decided such that the two cases could proceed together. While Apple intends to file a motion to stay discovery in the *Apple* case, Gwee intends to press its position to Judge Hanks that discovery in the *Apple* case does not and should not be stayed pending the Court's determination of the motion to transfer venue such that both cases can proceed with discovery including mandatory infringement, validity and claim construction disclosures under the patent rules of the Southern District of Texas, and the two cases can and should be consolidated for discovery and other pretrial

purposes. Samsung believes that the transfer issues should be determined first, then the schedule should be re-evaluated for both cases after that determination (if needed).

Gwee and Samsung take no position as to which court should preside over the two cases if this Motion to Consolidate is granted and leave that issue to the respective courts to decide.

### CONCLUSION

Gwee and Samsung respectfully requests entry of the attached proposed order consolidating the two above-captioned cases for pretrial purposes.

Dated: October 23, 2020

Respectfully submitted:

/s/ John J. Edmonds

John J. Edmonds  
Texas Bar No. 789758  
Federal I.D. No. 22110  
Stephen F. Schlather  
Texas Bar No. 24007993  
EDMONDS & SCHLATHER PLLC  
2501 Saltus Street  
Houston, Texas 77003  
Telephone: (713) 364-5291  
Facsimile: (713) 222-6651  
[jedmonds@ip-lit.com](mailto:jedmonds@ip-lit.com)  
[sschlather@ip-lit.com](mailto:sschlather@ip-lit.com)

Barrett H. Reasoner  
Texas Bar No. 16641980  
Federal ID No. 14922  
[breasoner@gibbsbruns.com](mailto:breasoner@gibbsbruns.com)  
Mark A. Giugliano  
Texas Bar No. 24012702  
Federal ID No. 29171  
[mgiugliano@gibbsbruns.com](mailto:mgiugliano@gibbsbruns.com)  
Michael R. Absmeier  
Texas Bar No. 24050195  
Federal ID No. 608947  
[mabsmeier@gibbsbruns.com](mailto:mabsmeier@gibbsbruns.com)  
Jorge M. Gutierrez  
Texas Bar No. 24106037  
Federal ID No. 3157999

jgutierrez@gibbsbruns.com  
GIBBS & BRUNS, LLP  
1100 Louisiana Street, Suite 5300  
Houston, Texas 77002  
Telephone: (713) 650-8805

Alistair B. Dawson  
Texas Bar No. Bar No. 05596100  
Federal Bar I.D. 12864  
adawson@beckredde.com  
Michael E. Richardson  
Texas Bar No. Bar No. 24002838  
Federal Bar I.D. 23630  
mrichardson@beckredde.com  
Garrett S. Brawley  
Texas Bar No. 24095812  
Federal Bar I.D. 3311277  
gbrawley@beckredde.com  
Patrick Redmon  
Texas Bar I.D. 24110258  
Federal Bar I.D. 3367321  
predmon@beckredde.com  
BECK REDDEN LLP  
1221 McKinney St., Suite 4500  
Houston, Texas 77010-2010  
Telephone: (713) 951-3700  
Facsimile: (713) 951-3720

Butch Boyd  
Texas Bar No. 00783694  
Federal Bar I.D. 23211  
butchboyd@butchboydlawfirm.com  
BUTCH BOYD LAW FIRM  
2905 Sackett Street  
Houston, TX 77098  
Telephone: (713) 589-8477  
Facsimile: (713) 589-8563

**ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF GUI  
GLOBAL PRODUCTS, LTD**

# Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

## Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

## Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

## Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

## API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

## LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

## E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.