IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS WACO DIVISION

GENTEX CORPORATION and INDIGO TECHNOLOGIES, LLC,

Plaintiffs,

Case No.: 6:21-cv-00755-ADA

THALES VISIONIX, INC.,

Involuntary Plaintiff,

v.

META PLATFORMS, INC. and META PLATFORMS TECHNOLOGIES, LLC,

Defendants.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

PLAINTIFFS' OPPOSITION TO META'S MOTION TO TRANSFER VENUE UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 1404(A)

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Plaintiffs Gentex Corporation and Indigo Technologies, LLC ("Gentex") filed this patent infringement suit against Meta in July 2021. For seven months, Meta actively litigated the case in this District: it answered the complaint, negotiated case management issues, served contentions, requested extensions, and filed three discovery motions. Only in February 2022 did Meta file its motion to transfer venue to the Northern District of California ("NDCA").

There are two explanations for Meta's litigate-and-wait approach. Either it took Meta seven months to gin up justifications for transfer—despite the fact that its arguments are based primarily on its own witnesses and documents. This, of course, belies any notion that NDCA is clearly more convenient than the Western District of Texas ("WDTX"). Or, if Meta did not delay for substantive reasons, its delay was strategic: wait as long as possible before filing, knowing that this Court would delay the *Markman* hearing if a venue transfer motion were still pending at the time of the originally scheduled hearing. Yet that gamesmanship would sink the motion on fairness grounds. In either case, Meta's delay is reason enough to deny its Motion.

Whatever the reason, Meta's foot-dragging is understandable: this case has close ties to Texas and plainly does not warrant transfer. Although the Court would never know it from reading Meta's motion, Dallas was a technological hub for Oculus, the company that created the foundational predecessors to the accused products. Dallas was the home base for Chief Technology Officer (and current Meta consultant) John Carmack, along with other engineers who worked on predecessors that formed the technological backbone to the accused products and who continue to work on these products to this day. Carmack, and others in Texas residing within 100 miles of the Waco courthouse, participated directly in negotiations leading to then-Facebook's acquisition of Oculus, a transaction that forms a substantial basis for Gentex's allegations of willful infringement in this matter. And still today, Texas is home to two Meta offices, including one of

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