

**Judge consolidates AHA, Associations, Hospitals .2% cut cases with other pending .2% offset cases, July 23, 2014**

MINUTE ORDER. The Court, sua sponte, consolidates this case (14-cv-263) with related cases Athens Regional Medical Center Inc. et al. v. Sebelius, Case No. 14-cv-503, American Hospital Association et al. v. Sebelius, Case No. 14-cv-607, and Bakersfield Heart Hospital et al. v. Burwell, Case No. 14-cv-976. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 42(a) (permitting the court to consolidate actions "involv[ing] a common question of law or fact"); Local Civ. R. 40.5(a)(3). The parties are directed to file all future documents in Case No. 14-cv-263. It is FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk's Office is directed to close Case Nos. 14-cv-503, 14-cv-607 and 14-cv-976. It is FURTHER ORDERED that the defendant in Case No. 14-cv-976 shall file its response to the Complaint in that case by no later than August 15, 2014. Once the defendant has filed its response to that Complaint, the Court intends to institute a consolidated schedule for the briefing of dispositive motions. That schedule will proceed as follows: First, all plaintiffs that have not yet filed a motion for summary judgment will be directed to file their dispositive motions, if any. Second, the government will be directed to file a consolidated opposition to all pending motions for summary judgment, combined with any cross motion for summary judgment. Third, the plaintiffs will be ordered to file reply briefs, combined with their oppositions to the government's cross motion. Fourth, the government will file a consolidated reply in further support of its cross motion. To assist the Court in crafting an appropriate briefing schedule, the parties are hereby ORDERED to submit a joint status report containing proposed deadlines for this consolidated briefing schedule by no later than August 22, 2014. In the event that counsel are unable to agree on a joint recommendation, each party shall file an individual recommendation by that time. It is FURTHER ORDERED that briefing on all pending motions for summary judgment is hereby STAYED pending the institution of a briefing schedule by the Court. All pending motions requesting the institution of a briefing schedule, [7] joint motion for briefing schedule in Case No. 14-cv-503, [8] consent motion for briefing schedule and [11] motion for briefing schedule by plaintiffs in Case No. 14-cv-607, are hereby DENIED AS MOOT. Signed by Judge Emmet G. Sullivan on July 23, 2014. (lcegs4)