

RMM

UNITED STATES TAX COURT

DYNAMO HOLDINGS LIMITED)	
PARTNERSHIP, DYNAMO GP, INC.,)	
TAX MATTERS PARTNER, ET AL.,)	
)	
Petitioners,)	
)	
v.)	Docket Nos. 2685-11
)	8393-12
)	
COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE,)	Judge Ronald L. Buch
)	
Respondent.)	

ORDER CONCERNING ESI DISCOVERY

At an informal telephonic conference call on November 24, 2015, among the Court and counsel for petitioners and respondent, petitioners and respondent reached a general agreement for the completion of certain ESI discovery. In an order dated November 24, 2015, the Court directed the petitioners and respondent to submit to the Court a draft Court order regarding the ESI discovery no later than December 11, 2015.

Background

Petitioners have funded the technology assisted review of the contents of two digital backup tapes created with respect to their computer system relating, at least in part, to the time period relevant to the tax returns at issue in these consolidated cases. Petitioners, after removing documents claimed to be privileged, permitted counsel for respondent to review multiple seed sets in order to generate the algorithm ("Algorithm") to be used to reduce the universe of digital documents to a more manageable number. After ten seed sets, the Algorithm had been refined to the point that petitioners' ESI vendor concluded that further sample sets would be unlikely substantially to improve it. At present, petitioners' vendor estimates that running the Algorithm against the entire universe of approximately 500,000 documents would produce the following results at the indicated levels of recall¹ and precision²:

¹ In this type of project, the word "recall" represents the percentage of all truly responsive documents in the total

Docket Nos. 2685-11
8393-12

2

Recall target	65%	70%	75%	80%	85%	90%	95%
Projected true positives	8,712	9,075	9,801	10,527	11,253	11,979	12,705
Projected true positives plus false positives	52,336	54,880	69,781	122,118	139,563	157,736	174,091
Precision	16%	16%	14%	8%	8%	7%	7%

Seeking the largest number of true positive documents, respondent elected to use the 95% recall target.

Order

Upon the agreement of petitioners and respondent, it is hereby ORDERED:

General Provisions

1. Petitioners will cause their ESI vendor to run the Algorithm to search the 500,000 documents using a recall target of 95% to generate a set of documents ("Initial Set").

2. Petitioners will then cause their ESI vendor to run a separate algorithm ("Second Algorithm") on the Initial Set to remove documents from the Initial Set as tentatively protected from production. Petitioners will list the documents identified as tentatively protected from production ("Withheld Set") on a computer-generated privilege log ("Privilege Log"). Petitioners and respondent agree that the Second Algorithm may remove documents that are not protected from production and miss other documents that are protected from production. To account for this, petitioners and respondent will follow the provisions set forth, infra, at paragraphs 6. through 8.

3. Petitioners will deliver the documents remaining in the Initial Set after the removal of the Withheld Set ("Production Set") and the Privilege Log to respondent via a portable device ("Portable Device") no later than January 4, 2016. Petitioners will deliver the Production Set as a Concordance deliverable with single-page TIF files, with a load file in .dat file format, except for spreadsheets and

universe of documents that will be gathered through running a particular algorithm.

² In this context, the term "precision" reflects the percentage of documents gathered targeting a particular level of recall that is truly responsive. The higher the level of recall sought, the larger the number of documents needed to be gathered and the smaller the percentage that is truly responsive.

Docket Nos. 2685-11
8393-12

3

Powerpoints, which respondent requests in native format. Petitioners will provide the final relevance score that the Algorithm generated for each document, along with the following metadata fields for the .dat file: BATESFIRST, BATESLAST, ATTACHFIRST, ATTACHLAST, EMAILTO, EMAILFROM, EMAILCC, EMAILBCC, AUTHOR, DATESENT, SUBJECT, ORIGINALFILENAME, FILEPATH, EMAILPATH, LASTMODDATE, CREATEDATE, CUSTODIAN, DUPECUSTODIAN, SOURCE, DUPESOURCE, NATIVEPATH, NATIVEFILENAME AND RECIPIENT, or equivalent fields, and the extracted text files for the documents produced.

4. Respondent will upload the Production Set onto a server where it will be accessible via respondent's Concordance review platform. The Production Set will be backed up to respondent's back-up storage. Respondent will review the Production Set using the same standards respondent used to review the seed sets. Respondent estimates that it will take approximately 60 days for respondent to review the Production Set. Respondent may retain the documents that respondent determines to be relevant ("Relevant Documents"). Upon respondent's completion of respondent's review of the Production Set, respondent will provide petitioners with a list of the Relevant Documents referencing them by their document identifier numbers ("Relevant Documents List").

5. Respondent may not use any document respondent obtains through petitioners' production of the Production Set unless respondent lists the document in the Relevant Document List. After respondent's review of the Production Set, respondent will immediately return the Portable Device to petitioners and delete all copies of documents from the Production Set, other than the Relevant Documents, from respondent's server. Respondent will delete all copies of the Production Set from respondent's back-up storage within six months, pursuant to respondent's operating procedures.

Treatment of documents identified as privileged that are challenged and recovery of privileged documents inadvertently produced

6. Petitioners will make a reasonable attempt to remove from the Initial Set documents that are protected from production. Petitioners and respondent agree that production of any document by petitioners in the Production Set shall not be deemed a waiver by petitioners of any protection against production. Petitioners and respondent agree respondent's

Docket Nos. 2685-11
8393-12

4

review of the Production Set will be conducted consistent with the principles of ABA Model Rule 4.4(b).

7. In the event that the list of documents on the Relevant Documents List does not exceed 15,000, petitioners shall have 30 days from petitioners' receipt of the Relevant Documents List to identify in writing any documents ("Clawback Documents") listed on the Relevant Documents List as protected from production. In the event that there are more than 15,000 documents on the Relevant Documents List, petitioners will have 45 days to identify in writing any Clawback Documents. Petitioners waive any protection against production for any document petitioners do not timely identify as a Clawback Document. Respondent shall have 10 days after respondent's receipt of the petitioners' identification of the Clawback Documents to identify in writing any Clawback Documents that respondent believes are not protected from production. Respondent waives any argument that a Clawback Document is not protected from production if respondent does not timely challenge it. The parties will negotiate in good faith to attempt to resolve any dispute regarding any Clawback Documents. In the event that the parties are unable to resolve the dispute in seven days, the parties agree to submit the dispute to the Court. In the event that Clawback Documents are delivered to the Court, they will be delivered under seal, and in accordance with the Court's rules.

8. Respondent shall have 45 days from respondent's receipt of the Privilege Log delivered with the Production Set to give petitioners notice that respondent challenges petitioners' withholding of any document ("Contested Document"). Respondent waives any argument that a Privilege Log document is not protected from production if respondent does not timely challenge it. Petitioners shall have 10 days from the receipt of respondent's notice that there are Contested Documents to disagree. Petitioners waive any protection against production for any Contested Document petitioners do not timely challenge. The parties will negotiate in good faith to attempt to resolve any Contested Document dispute. In the event that the parties are unable to resolve the dispute in seven days, the parties

Docket Nos. 2685-11
8393-12

5

agree to submit the dispute to the Court.

(Signed) Ronald L. Buch
Judge

Dated: Washington, D.C.
December __, 2015

US TAX COURT

**The parties shall comply with
the foregoing agreed order.**

DEC 15 2015

**(Signed) Ronald L. Buch
Judge**