# REDACTED VERSION OF DOCUMENT SOUGHT TO BE SEALED

(MICROSOFT'S MOTION FOR FURTHER SANCTIONS AGAINST HON HAI)

1	S. Michael Song (State Bar No. 198656)							
	michael.song@dechert.com							
2	Ryan T. Banks (State Bar No. 318171) ryan.banks@dechert.com							
3	DECHERT LLP							
4	3000 El Camino Real							
4	Five Palo Alto Square, Suite 650 Palo Alto, CA 94306							
5	Telephone: +1 650 813 4930							
6	Facsimile: +1 650 813 4848							
	Martin J. Black (pro hac vice)							
7	martin.black@dechert.com DECHERT LLP							
8	Cira Centre, 2929 Arch Street							
0	Philadelphia, PA 19104							
9	Telephone: + 1 215 994 4000 Facsimile: + 1 215 994 2222							
10								
	Paul Curran Kingsbery (pro hac vice) paul.kingsbery@dechert.com							
	DECHERT LLP							
	1095 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036							
	Telephone: + 1 212 698 3500							
14	Facsimile: + 1 212 698 3599							
14	Attorneys for Plaintiffs Microsoft Corporation	ı						
15	and Microsoft Licensing GP							
16								
17	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT							
17	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA							
18								
19	SAN JO	OSE DIVISION						
20	MICROSOFT CORPORATION and	Case No. 5:19-cv	-01279-LHK-NMC					
21	MICROSOFT LICENSING, GP,							
22	Plaintiffs,	MICROSOFT'S MOTION FOR FURTHER SANCTIONS AGAINST HON HAI						
	ŕ	DANCE TO NO TR	GMINOT HON HAI					
23	V.	Hearing Date:	April 22, 2020					
24	HON HAI PRECISION INDUSTRY CO.,	Hearing Time:	1:00 p.m.					
25	LTD., trading as FOXCONN TECHNOLOGY GROUP,	Courtroom:	5, 4th Floor					
	,	Judge:	Hon. Nathanael Cousins					
26	Defendant.	HIDA TOLLI OF	WANDED.					
27		JURY TRIAL DE	<u>EMIANDED</u>					
28								
DECHERT LLP								

MICROSOFT'S MOTION FOR FURTHER SANCTIONS AGAINST HON HAI No. 5:19-ev-01279-LHK-NMC

#### NOTICE OF MOTION FOR SANCTIONS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on April 22, 2020, at 1:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the

2

3

#### TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

4 5 matter may be heard, in Courtroom 5, Fourth Floor, Plaintiffs Microsoft Corporation and Microsoft Licensing, GP ("Microsoft") will, and hereby do, move under Rule 37 of the Federal

6

(1)

Rules of Civil Procedure and Rule 37-4 of the Civil Local Rules of this Court for an order:

7 8

entering a default judgment against Hon Hai on Microsoft's claim that Hon Hai breached the Confidential Patent License Agreement dated as of January 1, 2013 (the "PLA");

9

(2)deeming certain facts relating to Hon Hai's royalty obligations under the PLA as

10

established for purposes of this action; and

11

(3) requiring Hon Hai to pay Microsoft's reasonable expenses, including attorneys'

12 13 fees, caused by Hon Hai's failure to comply with this Court's prior discovery orders.

This motion is based on this notice of motion, the memorandum of points and authorities

14

set forth below, the accompanying Declaration of S. Michael Song in Support of Microsoft's

15

Motion for Further Sanctions Against Hon Hai ("Song Decl."), any reply or supplementary

16

material submitted on behalf of Microsoft under Civil Local Rule 7-3, the pleadings and papers

17

on file in this action, and such other written or oral argument as may be presented before the

18

motion is taken under submission by the Court.

19

#### STATEMENT OF RELIEF SOUGHT

20 21

Hon Hai's failure to comply with the clear terms of this Court's previous discovery orders has crossed the line from obstructionist delay to outright contempt of court. With just two weeks

22

left in the discovery period for Microsoft's breach of contract claim, Hon Hai persists in its failure

23

to produce basic sales information necessary to calculate its royalty obligations under the PLA.

24

Having been warned on numerous occasions by both Your Honor and Judge Koh, the only fair

25

and just relief that would remedy the prejudice to Microsoft is to enter a default judgment against

26

Hon Hai pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b)(2)(A)(vi). Microsoft also seeks an order pursuant to

27

Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b)(2)(A)(i) directing that, for purposes of a default damages hearing, or trial if

28

there is no default ordered, certain facts relating to the number of units of Covered Products sold

1 during the term of the PLA and the Device Fees for each unit, be deemed established as detailed 2 below. In addition to the foregoing relief, Microsoft requests an order pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 3 37(b)(2)(C) requiring Hon Hai to pay for Microsoft's reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred to secure compliance with this Court's prior discovery orders as a result of Hon 4 Hai's persistent and flagrant failure to comply with this Court's prior discovery orders. 6 STATEMENT OF ISSUES 7 (Civil Local Rule 7-4) 8 1. Whether the Court should enter a default judgment against Hon Hai based on its persistent 9 disregard for its discovery obligations under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and this Court's 10 prior discovery orders? 11 2. Whether for purposes of a default damages hearing, or for trial if terminating sanctions are 12 not granted, certain facts relating to the calculation of Hon Hai's royalty obligations under the 13 PLA should be established for purposes of this action, including the total number of royalty-14 bearing units sold by Hon Hai during the term of the PLA and the Device Fees used to calculate 15 Hon Hai's royalty obligation? 16 3. Whether the Court should award reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees, under 17 Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(a)(5)(A) resulting from Hon Hai's failure to comply with this Court's prior 18 discovery orders? 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

1			TABLE OF CONTENTS				
2							
3	NOTICE OF MOTION FOR SANCTIONS						
4	STATEMENT OF RELIEF SOUGHT						
5	STATEMENT OF ISSUES						
6	INTRODUCTION						
	STATEMENT OF RELEVANT FACTS						
7	I. The PLA and Hon Hai's Failure to Submit Required Royalty Reports						
8		A.	Operation of the PLA	1			
9		В.	Hon Hai's Failure to Comply with its Reporting Obligations	2			
10	II.		Hai's Refusal to Provide the Royalty Report Information Through overy	3			
11		A.	Microsoft's Discovery Requests	3			
12		B.	Microsoft's First Motion to Compel	4			
13		C.	Hon Hai's Violation of the First Discovery Order	6			
14		D.	Judge Koh's Warning to Hon Hai	7			
		E.	Hon Hai's Continuing Violations	8			
15		F.	The March 4 Hearings	10			
16		G.	The Current Status	11			
17	MEMORAN	NDUM	OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES	12			
18	I.	LEG	AL STANDARDS	12			
19	II.	ARC	GUMENT	12			
20		A.	First Proposed Sanction: The Court Should Enter a Default Judgment Against Hon Hai.				
21		B.	Second Proposed Sanction: The Court Should Enter An Order				
22			Directing That Certain Facts Are Established for Purposes of this Action	18			
23		C.	Third Proposed Sanction: The Court Should Order Hon Hai to Pay Microsoft's Reasonable Fees and Expenses Incurred to Secure Hon				
24			Hai's Compliance with the Court's Prior Discovery Orders				
25	CONCLUSION2						
26							
27							
28							
DECHERT LLP	ERT LLP — iii —						
		MICI	ROSOFT'S MOTION FOR FURTHER SANCTIONS AGAINST HON HAI				

1	TABLE OF AUTHORITIES
2	Cases
3	Alexsam, Inc. v. IDT Corp.,
4	715 F.3d 1336 (Fed. Cir. 2013)
5	Anheuser-Busch, Inc. v. Nat. Beverage Distribs., 69 F.3d 337 (9th Cir. 1995)
6	
7	Apple Inc. v. Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., No. C 11-1846 LHK (PSG), 2012 WL 1595784 (N.D. Cal. May 4, 2012)
8	Choudhuri v. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.,
9	No. 15-CV-03608-VC (KAW), 2017 WL 5598685 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 21, 2017)14
10	Computer Task Grp., Inc. v. Brotby, 364 F.3d 1112 (9th Cir. 2004)
11	Conn. Gen. Life Ins. Co. v. New Images of Beverly Hills,
12	482 F.3d 1091 (9th Cir. 2007)
13	Domanus v. Lewicki,
14	742 F.3d 290 (7th Cir. 2014)14
15	Hyde & Drath v. Baker, 24 F.3d 1162 (9th Cir. 1994)22
16	In re NCAA Student-Athlete Name & Likeness Licensing Litig.,
17	2012 WL 5372477 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 30, 2012)22
18	In re PPA Prod. Liability Litig.,
19	460 F.3d 1217 (9th Cir. 2006)
20	Jorgensen v. Cassiday, 320 F.3d 906 (9th Cir. 2003)
21	Karimi v. Golden Gate School of Law,
22	361 F. Supp. 3d 956 (N.D. Cal. 2019)
23	Leon v. IDX Sys. Corp., 464 F.3d 951 (9th Cir. 2006)
24	
25	Loop AI Labs Inc. v. Gatti, No. 15-cv-00798-HSG, 2017 WL 934599 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 9, 2017)
26	MGA Entm't, Inc. v. Nat'l Prods.,
27	No. 10-cv-07083-JAK, 2012 WL 4052023 (C.D. Cal. Sept. 14, 2012)22
28	
DECHERT LLP	– iv –  MICROSOFT'S MOTION FOR FURTHER SANCTIONS AGAINST HON HAI
	MICROSOFT OF MOTION TOX

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	Microsoft Corp. v. Hon Hai Precision Indu Co., No. 19-cv-01279-LHK, 2019 WL 3859035 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 16, 2019)
17	Fed. R. Civ. P. 37
18 19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
	— v — MICROSOFT'S MOTION FOR FURTHER SANCTIONS AGAINST HON HAI

#### INTRODUCTION

For nearly nine months, Microsoft has been trying to obtain critical information from Hon

Hai that bears directly on the central issue in this litigation: the amount of royalties Hon Hai was obligated to pay pursuant to the PLA. In fact, Microsoft's efforts to secure this information goes back to at least March 2017, when it exercised its contractual right to audit Hon Hai's sales records. Hon Hai refused to comply with the audit, and despite two Court orders and several admonitions from the Court, it has refused to produce the information in discovery. With no alternative left, Microsoft asks the Court to award Rule 37 sanctions to remedy the manifest prejudice to Microsoft caused by Hon Hai's refusal to participate in the discovery process. Microsoft respectfully submits that terminating sanctions, as well as orders deeming certain facts as established for purposes of this action and requiring Hon Hai to pay Microsoft's expenses, are warranted in view of Hon Hai's

12

13

11

#### STATEMENT OF RELEVANT FACTS

14

I.

#### The PLA and Hon Hai's Failure to Submit Required Royalty Reports

15

#### A. Operation of the PLA

misleading and obstructive conduct.

16

Microsoft and Hon Hai executed the PLA in April 2013, effective as of January 1, 2013. (See Compl. Ex. 1, ECF No. 49.) Pursuant to the PLA, Microsoft agreed to grant Hon Hai a license

17 18

for all of its patents covering certain products that include the "Android/Chrome Platform." (See

during the term of the PLA and to periodically report all sales of such devices and any claimed

exemptions. (See id. § 4.2, at 9.) There are three types of Covered Products: Smartphones, Smart

TVs, and General Purpose Consumer Devices. (See id. § 1, at 3.) The per-unit Device Fee is

determined based on the type of Covered Product and the Transfer Price. (See id. § 1, at 3-4.)

Notably, smartphones with a screen size of over 5.5 inches are not categorized as "Smartphones"

under the PLA, but rather are treated as General Purpose Consumer Device Devices and subject to

the higher royalties due for this class of device. (Id. § 1, at 3–4.)

In exchange, Hon Hai agreed to pay a royalty for each unit of a "Covered Product" sold

19

id. § 3.1, at 8.)

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

DECHERT LLP

Under the PLA, Hon Hai undertook to provide quarterly royalty reports, identifying for each Covered Product: the model number; the number of units sold; the contractually determined "Device Fee," data relating to units not subject to royalty; and the total royalty due. (*Id.* § 4.2.2(a), at 9, Exs. A, B.) The table below, taken from Exhibit A to the PLA, identifies the necessary information:

Category	Brand &	Units Sold	Transfer	Device Fee	Designated	Disputed	CO Unit	Exempt	Royalty
of Covered	Model No.	this	Price	(Based on	Units	Units	(Y/N)	CO Unit	Due (Units
Products		Royalty	Ranges	Device Fee				(Y/N)	x Device
		Period (per		Table)					Fee)
		Brand/							
		Model No.)							
Smart-									
phones									
Smart									
TVs									
General									
Purpose									
Consumer									
Devices									

The "Brand & Model No." column is self-explanatory, as is the "Units Sold this Royalty Period (per Brand/Model No.)" column. The Transfer Price is determined based on a formula in the agreement. (*Id.* § 1, at 6.) The "Device Fee" is calculated from a table in the PLA, which sets the royalty based on the device type and Transfer Price, with four separate "Transfer Price" tiers for each device type. (*Id.* § 1, at 3–4.) It is undisputed that the PLA required Hon Hai to retain documents sufficient to support the numbers in each royalty report. (*Id.* § 4.2.3, at 10.)

#### B. Hon Hai's Failure to Comply with its Reporting Obligations

Following the execution of the PLA, Hon Hai submitted royalty reports for 2013 and 2014. (See ECF No. 116-5.) Hon Hai collected and reported the unit volume and model numbers for each device, as well as the Transfer Price. According to a declaration filed by Hon Hai in this case, the information necessary to fill out the royalty reports was and still is contained in Hon Hai's SAP system. (ECF No. 152 ¶ 6.)

Hon Hai submitted its last royalty report on April 30, 2015. (Song Decl. ¶ 3, Ex. 1 (MSFT\_HONH\_00009572).) Hon Hai refused to submit any reports for the subsequent royalty periods. (Compl. ¶ 24; Answer ¶ 24; Song Decl. Ex. 2 (Hon Hai Responses to Microsoft's Requests for Admissions) at 10.) Notably, while Hon Hai has taken the position that it owes nothing to Microsoft, Hon Hai surreptitiously collected payments from at least one customer as compensation for royalty payments Hon Hai told that customer it was obligated to pay under the PLA. (See ECF No. 159-3 at 14.) Hon Hai did not even report these royalties to Microsoft, pocketing the monies instead.

Based on Hon Hai's continuing failure to submit royalty reports as required by the PLA, Microsoft invoked its audit rights under the agreement by written notice issued on March 31, 2017. (Compl. ¶ 25, Ex. 1 § 4.2.4 at 10; Answer ¶ 25.) Over the months that followed, Hon Hai refused to allow Microsoft's designated auditor, Deloitte & Touche, to conduct the audit and declined to provide any information in response to Deloitte's requests. (Compl. ¶ 25; Answer ¶ 25.)

Because Hon Hai failed to submit royalty reports and to comply with Deloitte's audit, Microsoft was forced to commence this action in March 2019.

## II. Hon Hai's Refusal to Provide the Royalty Report Information Through DiscoveryA. Microsoft's Discovery Requests

Microsoft served its First Request for Production of Documents (the "First RFPs") on June 17, 2019, seeking the information necessary to fill out the royalty reports. (*See* ECF No. 104-3 at 14–17.) Hon Hai refused to produce the documents, objecting to each of Requests No. 1–3, 10, and 28–30 as outside the scope of relevant discovery. (*See* ECF No. 140-4 at 7, 10, 13, 24, 53, 55, 57.) Hon Hai further objected that these requests "may call for the production of business information that is subject to disclosure restrictions imposed by applicable laws, rules, regulations, or other legally binding authorities of a foreign jurisdiction, such as Taiwan or Hong Kong... [and] confidential business information and trade secrets of third parties that Hon Hai is prohibited from producing pursuant to agreement." (*Id.* at 8, 11, 14, 24–25, 54, 56, 57.)

Following Judge Koh's denial of Hon Hai's motion to dismiss, *Microsoft Corp. v. Hon Hai Precision Indu Co.*, No. 19-cv-01279-LHK, 2019 WL 3859035, at \*7 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 16,

2019), Microsoft informed Hon Hai that its responses to the First RFPs were deficient by letter dated September 3, 2019. (ECF No. 104-5.) Over the course of the meet-and-confer discussions that followed, Hon Hai expressly withdrew its objections based on relevance and foreign law, but maintained its objection on the basis of its purported contractual confidentiality agreements to third parties. (ECF No. 104-6; Song Decl. Ex. 3 (G. Gregg Email Correspondence dated Oct. 7, 2019) at 1.)

By October, it had become clear that Hon Hai was stonewalling. To break the logjam, Microsoft served interrogatories seeking the information required to fill out the royalty reports on October 8, 2019. (*See* Song Decl. Ex. 4 at 6–7 (Interrogs. Nos. 1–2, 5.)) Hon Hai continued to delay and obfuscate, claiming on October 16, 2019, that even though there was a protective order in place, Hon Hai would not produce the data on its own sales figures without the permission of third parties. (*See* ECF No. 104-9 at 2, 4–5.)

#### B. Microsoft's First Motion to Compel

Facing a settlement conference scheduled before this Court on December 3, 2019, Microsoft sought this Court's intervention in early November 2019. The parties filed a joint letter brief regarding Hon Hai's failure to produce documents responsive to the RFPs on November 1, 2019. (ECF No. 73.) Principally, Hon Hai attempted to justify its refusal to produce documents based on (i) a claim that the PLA was not valid; (ii) its supposed need for additional time to "notify relevant customers and give them an opportunity to protect their confidentiality interests"; and (iii) the burden that producing the requested information entailed. (*Id.* at 4–5.) Notably, Hon Hai did not assert that there was any sort of trade secret or "state secrets" issue. By then, Hon Hai's replacement counsel was already working on the case and had discussed these arguments with Hon Hai. (ECF No. 151 ¶ 2–3.) Apparently, a decision was made not to assert a trade secret or state secret claim at the time—no doubt because the arguments were frivolous.

<sup>25 |</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

Hon Hai's former counsel, Rimon, P.C., filed its motion to withdraw as counsel on December 18, 2019—just two days after the Court granted Microsoft leave to file a full brief in support of its motion for sanctions. (See ECF Nos. 99–101.) Hon Hai's current counsel first appeared in this action on October 31, 2019. (ECF No. 71.)

On November 6, 2019, this Court held a hearing on Microsoft's motion to compel. During the hearing, Hon Hai never raised any foreign law objection or any objection relating to its purported confidentiality obligations. Rather, Hon Hai's (then-current and since-withdrawn) co-counsel focused on the supposed difficulty of obtaining the requested information from its client. Microsoft's counsel informed the Court that the information was very likely in an electronic SAP database: "the way these businesses are set up is they have an electronic system, usually SAP" that stores the necessary information about Hon Hai's device sales for internal reporting to Hon Hai management. (ECF No. 133 at 8:8–9.) Hon Hai's counsel disagreed, stating that "it's not appropriate for the Court to consider essentially expert witness testimony regarding Mr. Black's apparent knowledge as to Hon Hai's systems . . . . [W]e simply disagree that the obtaining of documents sought even on this first level, high level—so called high level is as simple as counsel represents." (ECF No. 133 at 12:14–16, 12:21–23.)

The Court directed the parties to continue negotiations and, absent a resolution, directed Hon Hai to submit a competing proposed order. (*Id.* at 27:16–28:2.)

Following the submission of the parties' proposed orders (ECF Nos. 80, 81, 82), the Court entered an order generally consistent with Microsoft's proposed order on November 8. (ECF No. 83 (the "First Discovery Order").) The First Discovery Order required Hon Hai to produce, in sum and substance, documents containing the information that it would have been required to include in its royalty reports. Paragraph 1 of the Discovery Order directed Hon Hai to produce, for "each six-month royalty period" since January 1, 2013, documents sufficient to establish:

- (a) the number of units of Smartphones, General Purpose Consumer Devices and Smart TVs that include the Android/Chrome Platform sold, leased, exported, or imported, ("Sold") by Hon Hai or its subsidiaries; and
- (b) for each such device, documents sufficient to establish the customer name, brand name, model name and number, invoice price to the customer, and country of sale.

(First Discovery Order ¶ 1.) Paragraph 2 of the Discovery Order directed Hon Hai to produce:

(a) for each device identified in Paragraph 1, other than for Excluded Units, documents sufficient to show the cost of hardware and software components, and labor cost charged for assembling the hardware and software components into the completed device (i.e., determination of Transfer Price range), see Microsoft RFPs Nos. 18–20, 28–30; see also Form of Royalty Report attached to this order,

1 2		column labeled "Transfer Price Ranges" (originally Exhibit A to the License Agreement);					
	(b)	to the extent that Hon Hai claims any exemptions from a royalty for an					
3		Android/Chrome Platform Sold by Hon Hai since January 1, 2013, documents sufficient to support the exemption, including the number of units Sold by Hon Hai or its subsidiaries:					
4							
5		(i)	to one of the third parties listed in sections (ii)(a)–(d) of the definition of "Unlicensed Devices" in the Agreement;				
6 7		(ii)	to the third party identified in section (iii) of the definition of "Unlicensed Devices" in the Agreement prior to January 1, 2014;				
8		(iii)	to one of the third parties listed as a "CO Entity" in the Agreement as a "China Destined Device" within the meaning of the Agreement; or				
9 10		(iv)	to a third-party qualifying as a "Designated Entity" under the Agreement.				
11	(First Discove	ery Ord	er ¶ 2.) The First Discovery Order required Hon Hai to produce the				
12							
13	Paragraph 2 b	y Dece	mber 13. $(Id. \P 1, 2.)^2$ The Court warned Hon Hai that failure to comply				
14	with the First	Discov	ery Order could result in sanctions under Fed. R. Civ. P. 37. (Id. ¶ 7.)				
	C. Hon Hai's Violation of the First Discovery Order						
15	C.	Hon I	Hai's Violation of the First Discovery Order				
15 16			Hai's Violation of the First Discovery Order e a limited, partial production by the November 22 deadline for the				
	Hon H	lai mad	·				
16	Hon H	Iai mad basic s	e a limited, partial production by the November 22 deadline for the				
16 17	Hon H production of Hai excluded	lai mad basic s	e a limited, partial production by the November 22 deadline for the ales information required by Paragraph 1 of the First Discovery Order. Hon				
16 17 18	Hon H production of Hai excluded not include th	Iai mad basic s numero e inforr	e a limited, partial production by the November 22 deadline for the ales information required by Paragraph 1 of the First Discovery Order. Hon ous customers and products from the production and what it did produce did				
16 17 18 19	Hon Hon Hon Hon Hai excluded not include the country of sal	Iai mad basic s numero e inform	e a limited, partial production by the November 22 deadline for the ales information required by Paragraph 1 of the First Discovery Order. Hon ous customers and products from the production and what it did produce did mation required by Paragraph 1, such as brand name, model name, and				
16 17 18 19 20	Hon	Iai mad basic s numero e informe. Impo	e a limited, partial production by the November 22 deadline for the ales information required by Paragraph 1 of the First Discovery Order. Hon ous customers and products from the production and what it did produce did mation required by Paragraph 1, such as brand name, model name, and ortantly, the production did not include sales information on five of Hon				
16 17 18 19 20 21	Hon For production of Hai excluded not include the country of sal Hai's largest of Hon For For Production Hon	Iai mad basic s numero e informe. Impo customo lai also	e a limited, partial production by the November 22 deadline for the ales information required by Paragraph 1 of the First Discovery Order. Hon ous customers and products from the production and what it did produce did mation required by Paragraph 1, such as brand name, model name, and ortantly, the production did not include sales information on five of Hon ers: Huawei, Xiaomi, Oppo, Meizu and Nokia-HMD. (ECF No. 97 at 1.)				
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Hon Hon Hon Hon Hon Hai excluded not include the country of sale Hai's largest of Hon	Iai mad basic s numero e informe. Impo customo Iai also Instead	e a limited, partial production by the November 22 deadline for the ales information required by Paragraph 1 of the First Discovery Order. Hon ous customers and products from the production and what it did produce did mation required by Paragraph 1, such as brand name, model name, and ortantly, the production did not include sales information on five of Hon ers: Huawei, Xiaomi, Oppo, Meizu and Nokia-HMD. (ECF No. 97 at 1.) provided evasive answers to Microsoft's interrogatories requesting the sales				
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Hon	Iai mad basic s numero e informe. Importustomo Iai also Instead ai serve	e a limited, partial production by the November 22 deadline for the ales information required by Paragraph 1 of the First Discovery Order. Hon ous customers and products from the production and what it did produce did mation required by Paragraph 1, such as brand name, model name, and ortantly, the production did not include sales information on five of Hon ers: Huawei, Xiaomi, Oppo, Meizu and Nokia-HMD. (ECF No. 97 at 1.) provided evasive answers to Microsoft's interrogatories requesting the sales of taking this Court's rulings in relation to the parallel document requests to				
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	Hon	Iai mad basic s numero e informe. Importustomo Iai also Instead ai serve	e a limited, partial production by the November 22 deadline for the ales information required by Paragraph 1 of the First Discovery Order. Hon ous customers and products from the production and what it did produce did mation required by Paragraph 1, such as brand name, model name, and ortantly, the production did not include sales information on five of Hon ers: Huawei, Xiaomi, Oppo, Meizu and Nokia-HMD. (ECF No. 97 at 1.) provided evasive answers to Microsoft's interrogatories requesting the sales of taking this Court's rulings in relation to the parallel document requests to d numerous obstructive objections to the interrogatories. (ECF No. 104–11.)				
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	Hon Hon Hon Hon Hai excluded not include the country of sal Hai's largest of Hon Hon Hai's reserved.	Iai mad basic s numero e informe. Importustomo Iai also Instead ai serve	e a limited, partial production by the November 22 deadline for the ales information required by Paragraph 1 of the First Discovery Order. Hon ous customers and products from the production and what it did produce did mation required by Paragraph 1, such as brand name, model name, and ortantly, the production did not include sales information on five of Hon ers: Huawei, Xiaomi, Oppo, Meizu and Nokia-HMD. (ECF No. 97 at 1.) provided evasive answers to Microsoft's interrogatories requesting the sales of taking this Court's rulings in relation to the parallel document requests to d numerous obstructive objections to the interrogatories. (ECF No. 104–11.) to Interrogatory No. 1 referred Microsoft to Hon Hai's 2013 and 2014 royalty				
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	Hon Hon Hon Hon Hai excluded not include the country of sale Hai's largest of Hon Hon Hai's resemble.  Hon Hai's resemble.  Hon Hai's resemble.	Iai mad basic s numero e inform e. Import customo Hai also Instead ai serve sponse t	e a limited, partial production by the November 22 deadline for the ales information required by Paragraph 1 of the First Discovery Order. Hon ous customers and products from the production and what it did produce did mation required by Paragraph 1, such as brand name, model name, and ortantly, the production did not include sales information on five of Hon ers: Huawei, Xiaomi, Oppo, Meizu and Nokia-HMD. (ECF No. 97 at 1.) provided evasive answers to Microsoft's interrogatories requesting the sales of taking this Court's rulings in relation to the parallel document requests to d numerous obstructive objections to the interrogatories. (ECF No. 104–11.)				

reports pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 33(d), but provided no response at all for 2015 through 2019. (See id. at 5.)

When Microsoft complained during a meet-and-confer call on December 9, 2019, Hon Hai's counsel resurrected its foreign law objection—now cast in terms of the trade secret law of China—and refused to identify what documents remained to be produced. Hon Hai refused to provide a full customer list, and while Hon Hai's counsel said they would attempt to provide a customer list by January 7, 2020, they refused to guarantee that the list would be "comprehensive." (ECF No. 104-12 at 3.)

Microsoft returned to Court. The parties submitted a joint letter brief for Microsoft's motion for sanctions and to compel interrogatory responses on December 13, 2019. The Court then ordered Microsoft to submit a brief in support of its motion on December 20, 2019.

On January 8, 2020, Microsoft and Hon Hai appeared for a hearing on Microsoft's motion for sanctions. Hon Hai did not contest that it had failed to comply with the November 8 Order, and suggested that some of the information necessary to calculate the royalties owed by Hon Hai may have been destroyed. (ECF No. 126 at 11:11–12:19.) At the conclusion of the hearing, the Court granted Microsoft's motion for sanctions in the form of attorneys' fees. (*Id.* at 29:13–15.) In a written order entered on February 12 to reflect the Court's January 8 ruling (the "Second Discovery Order"), the Court noted that it had previously warned Hon Hai that failure to comply with its November 8 order may result in sanctions under Rule 37. (ECF No. 144 at 3.) The Court held that Hon Hai's failure to answer Microsoft's Interrogatories 1, 2, and 5 was not "substantially justified," and directed Hon Hai to serve complete verified responses to Interrogatory Nos. 1, 2, and 5 by February 26, 2020, without relying on Fed. R. Civ. P. 33(d). (*Id.* at 6.) The Court ordered Hon Hai to pay Microsoft's expenses caused by its failure to comply with the November 8 order. (*Id.* at 8.) The Court warned Hon Hai a second time that further Rule 37 sanctions might be awarded for noncompliance. (*Id.* at 9.)

#### D. Judge Koh's Warning to Hon Hai

The parties appeared for a case management conference before Judge Koh on February 12, 2020. Prior to the conference, Microsoft informed the Court that Hon Hai had not complied

with the Court's November 8 and January 8 discovery orders. Hon Hai attempted to justify its misconduct by pointing to the outbreak of coronavirus in China as well as an entirely new objection based on foreign law—a supposed requirement that Chinese law obligated Hon Hai to conduct a "state secrets" review of documents prior to production. (ECF No. 128 at 1–2.) During the conference, the Court dismissed Hon Hai's novel and belated "state secrets" review objection and ordered Hon Hai's counsel to submit declarations concerning: (i) Hon Hai's total sales numbers from 2013 to 2019 (by February 17); (ii) Hon Hai's preservation of financial records (by February 24); and (iii) when Hon Hai's counsel first advised Hon Hai that Chinese trade secret law would provide a valid basis to withhold documents and information from production (by February 24). (ECF No. 145 at 12:18–14:6, 20:22–25.)

Judge Koh made clear that Hon Hai's discovery obstruction must stop. (*Id.* at 32:1–6, 32:19–23 ("Now, I hope, when Judge Cousins issues his order today, that there is full compliance by whatever deadline he sets. If it turns out that I find there are continuing games being played, then I will order you to come in every single week in person, no telephonic appearances permitted. . . . I don't want another history of judge's orders being issued on November 8th and still not being complied with as of February 12th. Not acceptable. If I have to sanction parties, if I have to sanction individual lawyers, I will do it.").) She explicitly mentioned the possibility of further sanctions.

#### E. Hon Hai's Continuing Violations

On February 17, Hon Hai sent Microsoft a declaration from its counsel concerning Hon Hai's total sales from 2013 to 2019. That declaration only provided information from Hon Hai's public filings with the Taiwan Stock Exchange and none of the information from Hon Hai's SAP system. (Song Decl. Ex. 5.) Rather than move the ball forward as Judge Koh directed Hon Hai to do during the February 12 conference, the declaration provided no useful information whatsoever.

On February 24, Hon Hai produced a declaration from its counsel concerning its preservation of financial records. (ECF No. 152.) Facing Judge Koh's pointed questions about spoliation, Hon Hai now took the position that "the information necessary to complete the royalty reports specified in the [PLA] in dispute is stored and maintained in [Hon Hai's] SAP database,"

and that Hon Hai's subsidiary responsible for manufacturing cell phones "does not delete any data from its SAP database." (Id. ¶ 6.) That declaration directly contradicted Hon Hai's prior representations concerning the difficulty of obtaining financial data and the existence of the SAP system. The declaration further stated that Hon Hai's other relevant subsidiaries "produced their documents and things responsive to Microsoft's discovery requests through Hon Hai's Chinese legal counsel, ScienBizIP, and they are not aware that there are any complaints from Microsoft regarding any deficiency on their behalf." (Id. ¶ 7.)

In the February 24 declaration on preservation of records, Hon Hai's counsel was vague about when litigation hold memoranda were circulated within Hon Hai and whether documents might have been destroyed prior to the circulation of those memoranda. Accordingly, on February 27, Judge Koh directed Hon Hai's counsel to "file a supplemental declaration that clarifies the dates that Hon Hai circulate the litigation hold memoranda to its different business groups." (ECF No. 154.)

Hon Hai's counsel filed a supplemental declaration on March 3, in which it claimed that litigation hold memoranda were circulated within various Hon Hai subsidiaries between May 30 and June 3, 2019—long after the dispute began. (ECF No. 165 ¶ 5.) The declaration also stated that the relevant subsidiaries "separately maintain all of the data necessary for the purposes of conducting an audit pursuant to the PLA in separate Enterprise Resource Planning systems," and that the data in those systems had been maintained consistently from 2013 to the present. (*Id.* ¶ 7.)

Despite representing that it had all the necessary data going all the way back to 2013, on February 26, Hon Hai provided its supplemental interrogatory responses and willfully failed to provide the information. Indeed, despite the explicit requirement in the Second Discovery Order that the response had to be verified, Hon Hai failed to serve a verification. (ECF No. 155-4 at 4.) The interrogatory responses were facially deficient with respect to Interrogatory No. 2: Hon Hai included total sales figures by time period and customer, but did not provide any information about what the units were comprised of, instead, stating that the numbers reflected both "Covered Products" and "services." (ECF No. 159-3 at 8.) Hon Hai intentionally refused to provide the

identification of model numbers, which would have allowed Microsoft to determine how the totals were derived, whether the units were above the 5.5 inch screen size limit and therefore fell into the General Purpose Consumer Device Table rates, and other information necessary to fill out the royalty report table. Nor did Hon Hai provide the Transfer Price information by model number so that Microsoft could calculate the appropriate Transfer Price and take discovery on Hon Hai's representations. Indeed, there were many oddities in the data, including that labor and material totals for one customer were provided for certain periods but omitted for others, which strongly suggests that the data is missing or has been destroyed. (See ECF No. 159-3 at 10.)

#### F. The March 4 Hearings

The parties appeared before Judge Koh and this Court on March 4. Judge Koh had scheduled a case management conference for that date at the conclusion of the February 12 case management conference. (ECF No. 141.) In a joint discovery status update dated February 28, 2020, Microsoft informed the Court that Hon Hai was in violation of the First and Second Discovery Orders. (ECF No. 156). The following business day, the Court scheduled a hearing on the status of discovery for March 4. (ECF No. 157.)

During the discovery hearing before this Court, Microsoft outlined the continuing deficiencies with Hon Hai's interrogatory responses and noted that, although Hon Hai had told Judge Koh that it had preserved all relevant information, it nonetheless failed to provide that information in the form of complete interrogatory responses. (ECF No. 175 at 4:17–5:1; 8:1–11.) Hon Hai's counsel argued that Hon Hai was acting in good faith and had produced "1.2 million transaction records," but also admitted that the interrogatory responses it had provided did not "fit the PLA. There's no question about that." (*Id.* at 5:19–22.) But as Microsoft's counsel countered, the Second Discovery Order expressly directed Hon Hai to provide interrogatory responses without referring to documents in reliance on Fed. R. Civ. P. 33(d). (*Id.* at 8:13–19.) With Hon Hai unable to offer a coherent explanation for its continued delay, the Court held that Hon Hai's "responses are not sufficient. I find that Hon Hai continues to be in violation of [a] prior court order that they provide the response, not documents under Rule 33, but answered interrogatories [and their] answers—while they provided some information, are still not

sufficient." (*Id.* at 20:7–20.) Based on this finding of a continuing violation by Hon Hai, the Court granted Microsoft leave to file the instant motion for further sanctions. (*Id.* at 20:17–18.)

That afternoon, the parties went before Judge Koh for a second case management conference. Judge Koh was deeply disturbed by Hon Hai's behavior. She noted that Hon Hai is a sophisticated company and that its conduct of discovery in this case had been "baffling." (*See* ECF No. 177 at 18:24–19:7 ("I am just bewildered about a major company being so disorganized with its sales numbers. I've never heard it before. I've never seen it before. You're not the sort of fly-by-night company that, you know, gets set up and then disappears and doesn't pay off [creditors]. You're a real, established company. So I have found your allegations about inability to determine sales numbers to be baffling. Baffling.").)

#### G. The Current Status

With two weeks to go in the discovery period, Hon Hai still has not received the message. On March 6, 2020, Hon Hai served amended supplemental interrogatory responses. While Hon Hai included a verification with the amended responses, the response to Interrogatory No. 2 remains deficient. This amended response purports to include sales data for Covered Products only, but still aggregates these numbers for each customer and does not provide device-specific model numbers or Transfer Price information. It is impossible to take this high level, aggregate data and fill in the royalty reports.

The position is no better in relation to the document production. Microsoft had planned to take the model numbers of identified products and cross-reference them to specifications and contracts to check Hon Hai's representations, to evaluate screen size (screens over 5.5 inches fall in the General Purpose Consumer Device category), to check the Transfer Price and do the other things typically required to prepare a damages case. But Hon Hai has not produced any of the product specifications or materials necessary to do so. This failure is an independent violation of the First Discovery Order. As a result, Microsoft finds itself at the beginning stages of damages discovery, with an incomplete document production, evasive interrogatory answers, no

depositions taken, no Fed. R. Civ. P. 30(b)(6) witness identified and discovery closing in two weeks.<sup>3</sup>

#### MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

#### I. LEGAL STANDARDS

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

A district court may issue sanctions against a party for failure to comply with discovery orders pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b)(2). "When choosing among possible sanctions, the Court should consider a sanction designed to: (1) penalize those whose conduct may be deemed to warrant such a sanction;" (2) deter parties from engaging in the sanctioned conduct; (3) place the risk of an erroneous judgment on the party who wrongfully created the risk; and (4) restore a prejudiced party to the same position he or she would have been in absent the wrongdoing." Operating Engineers' Health & Welfare Tr. Fund for N. California v. Cent. Valley Constr., No. 4:17-CV-02365-KAW, 2019 WL 6700093, at \*3 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 9, 2019) (citing Nat'l Hockey League v. Metro. Hockey Club, Inc., 427 U.S. 639, 643 (1976)). When considering casedispositive sanctions in particular, a district court must consider "whether it [has tried less dramatic sanctions], and whether it warned the recalcitrant party about the possibility of casedispositive sanctions." Conn. Gen. Life Ins. Co. v. New Images of Beverly Hills, 482 F.3d 1091, 1096 (9th Cir. 2007) (citing Valley Eng'rs v. Elec. Eng'g Co., 158 F.3d 1051, 1057 (9th Cir. 1998)). Finally, when deciding whether to grant a motion for sanctions, a district court may "properly consider all of a party's discovery misconduct ..., including conduct which has been the subject of earlier sanctions." Payne v. Exxon Corp., 121 F.3d 503, 508 (9th Cir.1997).

#### II. ARGUMENT

Hon Hai remains in violation of this Court's prior discovery orders. The Court required Hon Hai to submit "full and complete" responses to Microsoft Interrogatory No. 2 by no later than February 26, 2020. During a hearing on March 4, 2020, the Court held that Hon Hai was in

Judge Koh bifurcated trial and discovery in connection with Microsoft's breach of contract claim against Hon Hai and Hon Hai's answer, affirmative defenses, and counterclaims. (ECF No. 169.) The discovery requested in connection with this motion relates to Microsoft's affirmative breach of contract claim, for which the close of fact discovery remains March 31, 2020.

violation of the Second Discovery Order as of that date. Hon Hai's amended interrogatory responses have not cured the violation. Regrettably, the prior sanction granted by this Court has not accomplished its intended goal of securing Hon Hai's compliance with this Court's orders. Accordingly, more drastic sanctions are now necessary.

### A. First Proposed Sanction: The Court Should Enter a Default Judgment Against Hon Hai.

Given the short time remaining in the relevant discovery period and Hon Hai's continued refusal to produce basic sales data, entry of a default judgment against Hon Hai is necessary to prevent prejudice to Microsoft. Hon Hai's conduct has been intentional and in violation of multiple court orders, satisfying the requirement for "willfulness, bad faith, and fault." *Conn. Gen*, 482 F.3d at 1096 (citing *Jorgensen*, 320 F.3d at 912). While the decision to enter a terminating sanction is one of sound discretion for the district court, the Ninth Circuit has developed a five-part test to assist whether such a sanction is appropriate:

We have constructed a five-part test, with three subparts to the fifth part, to determine whether a case-dispositive sanction under Rule 37(b)(2) is just: '(1) the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need to manage its dockets; (3) the risk of prejudice to the party seeking sanctions; (4) the public policy favoring disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic sanctions.' The sub-parts of the fifth factor are whether the court has considered lesser sanctions, whether it tried them, and whether it warned the recalcitrant party about the possibility of case-dispositive sanctions.

Id. Each of those elements is satisfied here.

## 1. Factors 1 and 2: The Public Interest and the Court's Need to Manage Its Dockets Strongly Support Terminating Sanctions.

The first two factors are related: (1) the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; and (2) the court's need to manage its docket. Here, Hon Hai's obstructive conduct has resulted in substantial expense, as well as unnecessary motion practice and hearings. It is shocking that, even after four hearings before two judges, Hon Hai has refused to produce its basic sales information in sufficient detail to allow Microsoft to calculate the royalties Hon Hai owes and test the veracity of its data. The Court's docket has been distorted by the need to bifurcate and hold two separate trials, putting further strain on an already overburdened court.

DECHERT LLP

And two juries will how have to be empaneled to resolve this dispute. Judge Koh noted the importance of expediting this matter, as Microsoft has been waiting for over six years for the royalty reports and payments. (ECF No. 145 at 36:16–23 ("I'm inclined to [order bifurcation]. I feel like if someone has been waiting six years to get this resolved and there's a dispute resolution mechanism in the contract and that has been blown off, then I feel like they're entitled to get their day in court as soon as possible.").) The only way to obtain an expeditious resolution and to avoid contorting the Court's docket is to enter terminating sanctions.

#### 2. Factor 3: Microsoft Has Been Prejudiced

The third factor that the Court must consider is whether terminating sanctions are warranted to avoid prejudice to the requesting party. *Nat'l Hockey League*, 427 U.S. at 643. Specifically, the Court must consider "whether [the responding party's] actions impaired Plaintiff's ability to go to trial or threatened to interfere with the rightful decision of the case". *Leon v. IDX Sys. Corp.*, 464 F.3d 951, 959 (9th Cir. 2006) (internal quotations omitted). Such prejudice has been found where the responding party has, through noncompliance with its discovery obligations, forced the requesting party "to rely on incomplete and spotty evidence" at trial. *Anheuser-Busch, Inc. v. Nat. Beverage Distribs.*, 69 F.3d 337, 354 (9th Cir. 1995); *see also Choudhuri v. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.*, No. 15-CV-03608-VC (KAW), 2017 WL 5598685, at \*7 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 21, 2017) (finding prejudice where plaintiff failed to comply with court order, despite plaintiff's argument that she already provided "extensive information"). Terminating sanctions, such as a default judgment, are warranted where "there is a clear record of delay or contumacious conduct, where other less drastic sanctions have proved unavailing." *Domanus v. Lewicki*, 742 F.3d 290 (7th Cir. 2014).

As outlined above, the record of delay and contumacious conduct is manifest. Microsoft has done everything in its power to ensure that we would not reach this point: a discovery cut-off in two weeks and inadequate damages discovery to prepare for trial. Microsoft has not had an opportunity to review written discovery responses, take follow up discovery and otherwise prepare its damages case. To proceed to trial now would require Microsoft to use partial data or public IDC data, all of which Hon Hai would question and criticize before the jury. Microsoft

28
DECHERT LLP

3

5

6

4

789

11 12

10

14

13

1516

17

18 19

20

21

2223

24

25

2627

28

would be severely prejudiced were it forced to proceed to trial on the incomplete, self-serving evidence produced by Hon Hai in the litigation. Hon Hai has had numerous opportunities to comply but instead has opted for delay and contempt of the discovery process.

#### 3. Factor 4: Policy of Disposition on the Merits

Courts exist to decide cases on the merits, but there is a predicate to that principle: the parties must participate fairly in the litigation process. When a party charged with responsibility to move the case forward towards a disposition on the merits "impedes progress in that direction," courts have recognized that the public policy in favor of a disposition on the merits "offers little support" to any argument against case-dispositive sanctions. In re PPA Prod. Liability Litig., 460 F.3d 1217, 1228 (9th Cir. 2006); Rio Properties, Inc. v. Int'l Interlink, 284 F.3d 1007, 1022 (9th Cir. 2002) ("While the public policy favoring disposition of cases on their merits weighs against default judgment, that single factor is not enough to preclude imposition of this sanction when the other four factors weigh in its favor."). Accordingly, federal courts have imposed casedispositive sanctions, despite the general preference for disposing of cases on their merits, where a litigant's conduct has threatened such a disposition. Anheuser-Busch, 69 F.3d at 354 ("[I]t is appropriate to presume that where documents relevant to the merits of the litigation have been concealed the deception casts doubt on the concealing party's case."); N. Am. Watch Corp. v. Princess Ermine Jewels, 786 F.2d 1447, 1451 (9th Cir. 1986) (affirming terminating sanctions where appellants failed to comply "in a timely manner with the magistrate's discovery order compelling disclosure of certain invoices and financial statements, items relevant to adjudicating the merits of the controversy").

Hon Hai has thwarted the core judicial function to adjudicate disputes by refusing to produce the information necessary to allow the jury to decide the case on the merits. Moreover, this is not a case where Hon Hai's evasive tactics concern a "peripheral" matter. See Phoceene Sous-Marine v. US Phosmarine, Inc., 682 F.2d 802, 806 (9th Cir. 1982) (reversing entry of default based on defendant executive's deception concerning availability for trial). Rather, the First and Second Discovery Orders concerned information of core relevance to Microsoft's breach of contract claim against Hon Hai—the amount and quantity of damages. Loop AI Labs

*Inc. v. Gatti*, No. 15-cv-00798-HSG, 2017 WL 934599, at \*11 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 9, 2017) ("Despite the Court's significant efforts to enable resolution of this case on the merits, Plaintiff has persistently undercut those efforts through repeated refusal to comply with the Court's orders and a chronic and utter disregard for its obligations in this matter. In circumstances such as these, the public policy favoring resolution on the merits does not outweigh Plaintiff's bold refusal to comply with multiple discovery orders."). Under these unusual circumstances, Factor 4 weighs heavily in favor of the entry of terminating sanctions.

#### 4. Factor 5: Availability of Lesser Sanctions

The final factor is the availability of lesser sanctions, which is tested by reference to three subparts: (1) whether the court has tried such sanctions, (2) whether it warned the offending party and (3) whether it warned the party of the potential for case dispositive sanctions. *Computer Task Grp., Inc. v. Brotby*, 364 F.3d 1112, 1116 (9th Cir. 2004). All of those conditions have been met here. The lesser sanctions imposed in the Second Discovery Order have not resulted in the production of the necessary evidence in a timely fashion, and Hon Hai's excuses have not been credible. Moreover, Hon Hai was clearly on notice that a default judgment might result if it failed to conform its conduct to the Court's directives. There is a long record of obstruction punctuated by clear oral and written warnings by both Your Honor and Judge Koh:

- During the November 6, 2019 hearing on Microsoft's motion to compel, the Court permitted Hon Hai to make a supplemental brief, but warned Hon Hai's counsel that "if you use that brief and proposed order to make unreasonable positions, then I may impose fees and costs on this motion if that's my conclusion." (ECF No. 133 at 37:22–25.)
- In the First Discovery Order, the Court stated, "Hon Hai is cautioned that any of the sanctions listed in Fed. R. Civ. P. 37 may be awarded against it if it does not timely comply with this order." (ECF No. 83 at 4.)
- In the Second Discovery Order, the Court stated, "Both parties and their counsel are cautioned that any of the sanctions listed in Fed. R. Civ. P. 37 may be awarded against it if they do not timely comply with this order." (ECF No. 144 at 9.)
- During the case management conference on February 12, Judge Koh stated that she did not "want to see another 24-page joint case management statement that looks like this. I don't want another history of Judge's orders being issued on November 8 and still not being complied with as of February 12th. Not acceptable. If I have to sanction parties, if I have to sanction individual lawyers, I will do it." (ECF No. 145 at 32:18–23.)

DECHERT LLP

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

Here, the sanction of a default judgment is warranted because Hon Hai has repeatedly flaunted this Court's orders, has offered shifting and false excuses in an attempt to justify its noncompliance, and severely prejudiced Microsoft's ability to prove its case by withholding critical documents and information. From the beginning of fact discovery in this case, Hon Hai raised frivolous "confidentiality" objections, despite the fact that the parties had a protective order in place and made bogus and waived foreign law arguments. But worse than that, Hon Hai misled the Court. While arguing all along that it was just too difficult to find the information, a position that was not credible in the slightest, the truth began to come out when Your Honor and Judge Koh questioned Hon Hai about possible spoliation. Hon Hai was forced to admit what Microsoft has been saying all along, which is that the necessary information is in Hon Hai's SAP accounting system. (ECF No. 133 at 8:8–21; ECF No. 145 at 29:19–25.) Indeed, even before Hon Hai finally admitted that its accounting systems contain all necessary data, Judge Koh found Hon Hai's position that it was difficult to locate basic sales information to lack credibility: "I don't think [Hon Hai's position is] credible and I am disappointed to hear it. I'm just very disappointed to hear it. I mean, I've worked with Taiwanese companies as well, both as a lawyer and certainly see a lot of the litigation over ten years, and to say that they have no idea [about] the number of units they've sold to a single customer just lacks credibility." (ECF No. 145 at 30:1–7.)

While all of these evasive tactics are blameworthy and may independently warrant severe sanctions, considered together they suggest that only the most severe sanctions available will remedy Hon Hai's misconduct. Courts in this Circuit have entered terminating sanctions based on similar misconduct intended to thwart the ultimate resolution of litigation on the merits. *See Computer Task Group*, 364 F.3d at 1116 (affirming dismissal of counterclaims and entry of default on plaintiff's claims where defendant violated court orders by failing to provide clear answers to interrogatories, made frivolous objections, and failed to provide information plaintiff sought); *Jorgensen v. Cassiday*, 320 F.3d 906 (9th Cir. 2003) (affirming district court order striking defendants' answer and entry of default in favor of plaintiff where defendants relied on unsupported claim that discovery was unobtainable); *Shearson Loeb Rhoades, Inc. v. Quinard*, 751 F.2d 1102 (9th Cir. 1985) (affirming entry of default judgment where defendants engaged in

1 willful and deliberate disobedience of discovery order, willful concealment of evidence, and 2 attempted fabrication of false evidence). Hon Hai should not be rewarded for its evasive and 3 misleading tactics. 4 B. Second Proposed Sanction: The Court Should Enter An Order Directing That Certain Facts Are Established for Purposes of this Action. 5 6 The Court should also impose the sanction of an order deeming certain facts as established 7 for purposes of this litigation. Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b)(2)(A)(i). Federal courts may grant such 8 evidentiary sanctions where a party has willfully failed to comply with court orders compelling 9 production of relevant documents or information to the prejudice of the requesting party. Apple 10 Inc. v. Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., No. C 11-1846 LHK (PSG), 2012 WL 1595784, at \*2-3 11 (N.D. Cal. May 4, 2012) (precluding Samsung from "offering any evidence of its design-around 12 efforts for [certain] patents" or from raising related arguments, where it failed to produce such 13 information as required by court order). While ultimately within the discretion of the Court, 14 evidentiary sanctions are warranted when the fact to be deemed established has a "substantial 15 relationship" to the responding party's discovery violations and the imposition of that sanction 16 serves Fed. R. Civ. P. 37's goals of punishment and deterrence. Alexsam, Inc. v. IDT Corp., 715 17 F.3d 1336 (Fed. Cir. 2013). Here, an order establishing the facts necessary to fill in the royalty 18 reports would be relevant both to an assessment of damages hearing following a default or trial if 19 the Court declines to grant terminating sanctions. 20 Specifically, the Court should order the following as established facts: 21 1. The royalty-bearing units disclosed for each period in Hon Hai's First Supplemental 22 Response to Interrogatory No. 2 are Covered Products within the meaning of the PLA on which 23 royalties are due. (i.e., Smartphones, General Smart TVs, and Purpose Consumer Devices).4 24 25 26 These numbers comprise the totals derived from adding all disclosed customers together with the exception of 27 and others who are expressly exempted under the agreement. A summary table including the calculation is attached as Exhibit 6. 28 -18 -MICROSOFT'S MOTION FOR FURTHER SANCTIONS AGAINST HON HAI

cannot probe this discrepancy or the many others on the face of the documents due to Hon Hai's contumacious conduct.

Accordingly, it would be fair and just to hold Hon Hai, at a minimum, to the number of units it has disclosed. The Court should enter an order determining that the number of royalty-bearing Covered Products sold during the Term is the number of devices in the First Supplemental Response to Interrogatories Nos. 1, 2, and 5 from unlicensed customers (i.e.,

Smartphones, Smart TVs, and General Purpose Consumer

Devices). The detail for this calculation is attached as Exhibit 6.

2. The Court Should Enter An Order Establishing That For Each Covered Product, the "Device Fee" Shall Be the Highest Applicable "Device Fee" for the Device Under the PLA.

Hon Hai's response to Interrogatory No. 2 is also deficient because it fails to provide adequate Transfer Price information on a per-device model basis—the only basis for determining the applicable Device Fee under the PLA. Based on Hon Hai's failure to provide this basic but essential sales data, the Court should deem the "Device Fee" for each Covered Product unit as established to be the highest permissible tier provided in the PLA.

The interrogatory responses Hon Hai has provided to date have been inconsistent in their reported Transfer Price numbers. In its February 26 amended interrogatory responses, which were not verified, Hon Hai provided "Sum of Material Cost" and "Sum of Labor Cost" information for certain of its Smartphone and General Purpose Consumer Device customers, but no such information at all for SmartTV customers. (ECF No. 159-3 at 11–12.) In that version of its responses, Hon Hai did not provide material cost and labor cost information for all of its customers and all applicable royalty periods; it reported no material costs for certain time periods and no data at all for certain customers. Moreover, while the PLA states that the Transfer Price for a particular unit shall be determined "twenty percent (20%) more than the average BOM + Labor Cost for a given Royalty Period for such Covered Product," Hon Hai provided the "BOM+Labor Cost" on a customer-specific basis and did not separately break out the applicable inputs for each Covered Product. (Compl. Ex. 1 § 1, at 6; ECF No. 159-3 at 9–12.)

In its amended supplemental interrogatory responses, the situation is no better. Hon Hai has still failed to provide the model number information, which would allow Microsoft to determine whether the screen size exceeds the 5.5 inch limit for Smartphones or whether royalties are payable at the higher level required for General Purpose Consumer Devices. In addition, for certain Smartphone customers, Hon Hai provided purported "Average Transfer Price" information, but only for limited royalty periods. (Song Decl. Ex. 7, at 9–13.) Hon Hai's amended interrogatory response does not include Transfer Price information for Smart TVs, and, for the reasons stated above, the "average" transfer price or BOM+Labor Cost information actually provided does not shed any light on the applicable Transfer Price tier that should be applied to particular Covered Product. Without accurate Transfer Price information, Microsoft cannot accurately calculate the appropriate "Device Fee" for each Covered Product. In light of these deficiencies, Microsoft submits that for all Covered Products, the Device Fee should be the highest applicable fee allowed under the PLA. For Smartphones, the Court should make a finding that the minimum Device Fee due is per unit. Based on the table in page 4 of the PLA, the rate for Smartphones (5.5 inches or less) ranges from depending on the Transfer Price. The applicable price for smartphones over 5.5 inches, which are classified as General Purpose Consumer Devices, would range from Thus, the smartphones manufactured by Hon Hai might incur a royalty of anywhere between The crossover rate of which comprises the highest Smartphone rate and lowest General Purpose Consumer Device rate, is a conservative and reasonable number to use under the circumstances.<sup>5</sup> For SmartTVs and General Purpose Consumer Devices, the highest applicable Device Fee should be applied because Hon Hai has willfully obscured Transfer Price information. Accordingly, applying the highest potentially applicable Device Fee is necessary to prevent unfair prejudice to Microsoft.

2526

27

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Hon Hai has not produced any information on exemptions, which is Hon Hai's burden of proof to establish under the PLA.

3

6 7

5

8

10 11

12 13

1415

16

17

18

19 20

21

2223

24

2526

27

28

DECHERT LLP

C. Third Proposed Sanction: The Court Should Order Hon Hai to Pay Microsoft's Reasonable Fees and Expenses Incurred to Secure Hon Hai's Compliance with the Court's Prior Discovery Orders.

Under Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b)(2), Microsoft is entitled to reimbursement of its expenses caused by Hon Hai's obstructive tactics. The expense-shifting provision of Fed. R. Civ. P. 37 is mandatory unless Hon Hai can show that its "failure was substantially justified or other circumstances make an award of expenses unjust." Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b)(2)(C). "Willfulness, fault, or bad faith is not required for the imposition of monetary sanctions under Rule 37(b)(2)." In re NCAA Student-Athlete Name & Likeness Licensing Litig., 2012 WL 5372477, at \*6 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 30, 2012). To date, Hon Hai has not offered any coherent justification for its failure to produce the basic data concerning sales of Covered Products during the term of the PLA, and the justifications Hon Hai has offered have been misleading for the reasons discussed above. Ultimately, especially because the Court has already found Hon Hai to be in violation of the prior discovery orders, it is Hon Hai's burden to come forward with a justification of its conduct. Hyde & Drath v. Baker, 24 F.3d 1162, 1171 (9th Cir. 1994). Microsoft respectfully submits, however, that Hon Hai cannot meet this burden because, especially considered as a whole, "reasonable people" could not "differ as to the appropriateness of" Hon Hai's conduct of discovery in this action. MGA Entm't, Inc. v. Nat'l Prods., No. 10-cv-07083-JAK, 2012 WL 4052023, at \*3 (C.D. Cal. Sept. 14, 2012) (citations omitted) (substantial justification exists where there is "a genuine dispute or if reasonable people could differ as to the appropriateness of the contested action.")

#### **CONCLUSION**

For the foregoing reasons, Microsoft respectfully requests that the Court: (1) enter a default judgment against Hon Hai, (2) find the established facts outlined above, and (3) order Hon Hai to pay the reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred by Microsoft to secure Hon Hai's compliance with this Court's prior discovery orders.

1	Dated: March 13, 2020 Respectfully submitted,					
2	DECHERT LLP					
3						
4	By:/s/_S. Michael Song					
5	S. Michael Song (State Bar No. 198656)					
6	michael.song@dechert.com Ryan T. Banks (State Bar No. 318171)					
7	ryan.banks@dechert.com DECHERT LLP					
8	3000 El Camino Real, Suite 650 Palo Alto, CA 94306					
9	Telephone: +1 650 813 4800 Facsimile: +1 650 813 4848					
10	Martin J. Black (pro hac vice) martin.black@dechert.com					
11	DECHERT LLP Cira Centre, 2929 Arch Street					
12	Philadelphia, PA 19104 Telephone: +1 215 994 4000					
13	Facsimile: +1 215 994 2222					
14	Paul Curran Kingsbery ( <i>pro hac vice</i> ) paul.kingsbery@dechert.com					
15	DECHERT LLP 1095 Avenue of the Americas					
16	New York, NY 10036 Telephone: +1 212 698 3500					
17	Facsimile: +1 212 698 3599					
18 19	Attorneys for Plaintiffs MICROSOFT CORPORATION					
20	and MICROSOFT LICENSING, GP					
21						
22						
23						
24						
25						
26						
27						
28						
DECHERT LLP						
	MICROSOFT'S MOTION FOR FURTHER SANCTIONS AGAINST HON HAI No. 5:19-cv-01279-LHK-NMC					