# Cislo & Thomas LLP Litigation Cost Control<sup>™</sup> (LCC<sup>™</sup>)

# **Stages of Litigation and Expected Fees and Costs**

The following is a list of procedural Tasks and Deadlines for actions in the <u>Central District of California</u> based on the Federal Rules; the Court's Local Rules, many District Court Judges' orders and a typical Central District of California litigation time schedule for trial. Assume Central District average time to trial 18 months.

### DATEFILING AND SERVICE OF INITIAL PLEADINGSAUTHORITY

#### 1. Investigate Matter and Parties involved

A. In General:

Task 1 –	Audit File
Task 2 –	<b>Review Deadlines and Rules</b>
Task 2A –	Avoid Pitfalls in the Local Rules
Task 3 –	Analyze the Pleadings
Task 4 –	Create Proof Outline
Task 5 –	Develop Case Theme

#### \$ 3,000

### 2. Prepare Complaint—Day 1

A. Structure Case:

Task 6A –	Seek an Injunction
Task 6B –	Apply for a Temporary Restraining Order
Task 6C -	Seek Declaratory Relief
Task 5 –	Develop Case Theme

#### B. File Complaint/Answer: Day 20

\$	7,500 w/o injunction	(Cumulative Total=\$	10,500/
2	50-\$75 000 w/injunction	\$	60 500 \$85 500

**50-\$75,000** w/injunction \$ 60,500—\$85,500) (Includes expedited discovery for strongest evidence, two briefs plus hearing)

By	Day 90	Plainti	ff must	serve Comp	laint on	defendants	• • • • • • • • • • •	 	 ]	FRCP	4(m)
	(Cpt Filed	<mark>+ 90)</mark>									

- By <u>Day 106</u> Defendant must conduct <u>Meet and Confer</u> re Rule 12(b) motion, if any ...... LR 7-3 (Cpt served + 16)

 \$ 25-\$75,000 (Cum: \$85,500-\$135,500/\$110,500-\$160,500) (Personal Jurisdiction/Venue motion. Includes two briefs plus hearing for plaintiff One brief plus hearing for defendant)

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### 3. Opposition to Rule 12(b) Motion/Other Pleadings, if made

Structure Case cont	t.	
Task 6D	\$ 7,500	Amend Pleadings
Task 7	3,500	Oppose Motion to Amend Pleadings
Task 8	6,500	Sever Claims or Parties
Task 9	6,500	Dismiss Claims or Parties
Task 10	6,500	Move for Separate Trials
Task 11	7,000	Add Counterclaims or Cross-Claims
Task 12	6,500	Implead Third Parties
Task 13	8,500-11,500	Add Parties: Mandatory- Joinder
Task 14	8,500-11,500	Add Parties Permissive Joinder
Task 15	4,500	Intervene
Task 16	1,250	Voluntarily Dismiss Actions
Task 17	7,500	Consolidate Cases
Task 18	10,500-15,500	Transfer Venue
Task 19	500	Consent to Magistrate Judge
Task 19A	A <u>3,500</u>	Work with Special Master (totals
	\$ 88,000-\$105	5,000
Not to exceed	\$ 75,000	(Cum: \$160,500—\$210,500/\$185,500—\$235,500)

### 4. Pretrial Meetings and Conferences:

Notify Counsel re Early Meeting of Counsel

Task 20	Mandatory Discovery Planning Conference	
Task 21	Participate in FRCP 16 Conference	
· :	Forthe Mosting of Coursel	EDCD 200

By [Entry] Plaintiff must conduct Early Meeting of Counsel...... FRCP 26(f) (Sched. Conf. - 21<sup>1</sup>)

Prepare [Proposed] Joint Report for Defense Counsel review/input

- By [Entry] Plaintiff must file Joint Report of Early Meeting ...... FRCP 26(f) (Early Mtg + 14)

**5,000** (Cum: \$165,500-\$213,500/\$190,500-\$240,500)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Sched. Conf. - 21" means 21 calendar days before the scheduling conference set by the Court.

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# **DISCOVERY DEADLINES**

# 5. Disclosure Requirements

Prepare Initial Disclosures

Task 22		Review and Make Initial Disclosures
\$	3,000	(Cum: \$168,500—\$216,500/\$193,500—\$243,500)

# 7. Organize Discovery

Task 25		Set Discovery- Goals
Task 26		Prepare Deposition Schedule
Task 27		Docket Internal Discovery Schedule
Task 28		Prepare Final Phase Discovery Plan
Task 29		Conduct Freedom of Information Act Discovery
Task 30		Complete Informal Discovery
\$	4,000	(Cum: \$172,500—\$220,500/\$197,500—\$247,500)

# 8. Nonparty Discovey

Task 31	Subpoena Records from Nonparties	
Task 32	Challenge Subpoenas (Can be expensive)*	
Task 33	Enforce Subpoenas (Can be expensive)*	
Task 34	Produce and Inspect Nonparty Documents	
\$ 5,000	- <b>\$25,000*</b> (Cum: \$177,500—\$245,500/\$202,500–	-\$272,500)

# 9. Format Written Discovery

ies
for Admission
to Produce or Inspect
scovery
inations or Reports

A. Interrogatories to Defendant

B. Document Production Requests to Defendant

C. <u>Requests for Admission</u> to Defendant \$25,000-75,000

(Cum: \$202,500-\$315,500/\$227,500-\$342,500

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#### **DISCOVERY DEADLINES CONT.**

#### 10. Depositions

Task 40	Notice Depositions
Task 41	Notice Expert Depositions
Task 41A	Advanced Expert Discovery Strategy
Task 42	Prepare For and Take Depositions
Task 43	Take Telephone Depositions
Task 44	Take Videotaped Depositions
Task 45	Object to Depositions
Task 46	Prepare Client or Witness for Depositions
Task 47	Defend Depositions
Task 59	Prepare Experts for Deposition
Task 60	Depose Experts
Task 61	Supplement Expert Discovery

- A. Schedule 30(b)(6) and Individual Depositions
- B. Additional Discovery as needed
- C. Review Discovery Responses
- D. Prepare & Serve <u>Responses</u> to Propounded Discovery (Various as applicable)

\$ 75,000	(Cum: \$277,500—\$390,500/\$302,500—\$417,500)
	•Est. Prosecuting five (5) depos [10-12 hrs prep, 8hrs depo,
	3 hrs to review = $21-23$ hrs or $9,000/depo$ .
	•Est. Defending five (5) depos [4 hrs prep, 8 hrs depo,
	3 hrs review = 15 hrs or $6,000/depo$
o serve fact discovery by	FRCP 34(h)

#### 11. Resolve Discovery Problems

Task 48	Extend Discovery Time
Task 49	Shorten Discovery Time
Task 50	Stipulate to Protective Order
Task 51	Move for Protective Order

A. Prepare Compel Letter to counsel re deficient discovery responses LR 31-1

On [Entry] Last day to send compel letter (fact). L.R.37-2,37-3, Judge's Proc., Standing Order (Disc. C/O - 100(i.e., 10 days for the letter + 14 days to prep stip + 7 days for opponent to prep his portion of stip + 28 + 3 days for the motion + 28 days to respond to compel order)

B. Meet & Confer re discovery Task 52

Meet and Confer LR 37-1

C. Prepare and serve Discovery Joint Stipulation re Motion to Compel (Various) 37-2, 37-2.1

D. Receive (within 7 days) Responding Party portion of Joint Stipulation 37-2.2

Task 53Compel Discovery or Disclosures

Task 54Move for Discovery Sanctions

E. Prepare and File <u>NOTICE OF MOTION & Joint Stipulation</u> re Discovery Motion to Compel (Various) 37-2.2

F. Prepare & File <u>Supplemental Memorandum</u> (14 days prior to hearing)o Motion (Various) 37-2.3 Task 55 Supplement Disclosures and Discovery Responses

# On [Entry] Fact discovery cutoff...... Scheduling Order and Magistrate's hearing date

#### (Disc. C/O)

\$ 25,000-\$40,000

(Cum: \$302,500—\$430,500/\$327,500—\$457,500) Compel Motion cost depends on degree of work/complexity

12. Experts

Task 56	Determine Whether to Retain Experts
Task 57	Retain Consultants
Task 58	Use Consultants to Prepare for Trial
Task 61A	Challenge Expert Witnesses

#### A. Prepare Expert Reports

- By [Entry] Last day to serve expert reports (if not otherwise ordered) ......FRCP 26(a)(2) (Trial - 90)
  - B. <u>Disclosure Requirements</u> Task 24 Identify

Identify Experts and Disclose Their Reports

- C. Prepare <u>Rebuttal Expert Reports</u>
- - D. Prepare Compel Letter to counsel re deficient Expert Report
- On **[Entry]** Last day to send <u>compel letter</u> (expert) ..... L.R. 37-2, 37-3, Judge's Procedures, Standing Order (Exp. Disc. C/O 75) (i.e., 10 days for letter + 13 days for the stip + 24 days for the motion + 28 days to respond to compel order)
  - E. Meet & Confer re Expert Reports
  - F. Expert Joint Stipulation re Motion to Compel
  - G. Receive (within 5 days) Responding Party portion of Joint Stipulation
  - H. Prepare and File NOTICE OF MOTION & Joint Stipulation re Expert Motion to Compel (Various)
  - I. Prepare & File Supplemental Memorandum (14 days prior to hearing) o Motion (Various)
- On [Entry] Expert discovery cutoff ...... Scheduling Order and District Judge hearing date (Exp. Disc. C/O)
- \$ 90,000 (()
  Includes three (3) experts [liability (2) and damages (1), not including expert fees
  Typically, fees can be \$50,000/expert, not including trial testimony.
  For Trademark cases, assume \$50,000 for a trademark survey and survey expert

(Cum: \$392,500—\$520,500/ \$417,500—\$547,500) <u>AIPLA<sup>2</sup> fee estimate at end of discovery</u>: Patent Infringement: \$700,000—\$2,500,000 Trademark Infring.: \$225,000--\$600,000 Copyright Infring.: \$200,000--\$625,000 Trade Secret Misapp.: \$200,000--\$1,300,000

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> American Intellectual Property Law Association <u>Report of the Economic Survey 2009</u>, figures for \$1-25 million at risk.

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#### **DISPOSITIVE MOTION DEADLINES**

#### 13. Motions

Task 62	Motion Basics
Task 63 <b>\$ 3,500</b>	Make Ex Parte Applications
Task 64 <b>\$60,000-\$75,000</b>	Move for Summary Judgment
Task 65 <b>\$35,000-\$40,000</b>	Oppose Motion for Summary Judgment
Task 65A <b>\$25,000-\$35,000</b>	Seek Rule 11 Sanctions
Task 65B	Seek Sanctions on Other Grounds
Task 66 <b>\$15,000</b>	Move to Dismiss for Failure to Prosecute
Task 67A <b>\$ 4,500</b>	Move to Expedite Trial
Task 67B <b>\$ 2,500</b>	Move to Amend Pretrial Scheduling Order
Task 67C <b>\$ 2,500</b>	Move for Trial Continuance
Task 68 <b>\$4,000-\$5,500</b>	Move to Stay Federal Proceedings
Task 69	[Reserved]
Task 70 <b>\$ 3,500</b>	Move to Disqualify Judge
Task 71 <b>\$ 4,500</b>	Move to Withdraw as Counsel
Task 72 <b>\$ 3,000</b>	Move for Reconsideration of an Order or to Alter Judgment

- .. \$50,000-\$75,000 Markman Hearing on Patent Claims interpretation
- A. Give Notice to Counsel re Meet & Confer re motion (Various)
- By [Entry] Last day to conduct meet and confer re dispositive motions, if any...... LR 7-3 (Mot. C/O - 38 [28 + 10 M&C])
  - B. Prepare and Serve Dispositive Motion (Various)
  - C. Prepare and Serve Opposition (Various)
  - D. Prepare and Serve Reply to Opposition (Various)
- - E. Prepare and Serve Opposition (Various)
    - F. Prepare and Serve Reply to Opposition (Various)

On [Entry] Last day to hear dispositive motions ...... Scheduling Order and Magistrate's hearing date (Mot. C/O)

**\$ 65,000-\$125,000** or (Cum: \$457,500—\$645,500/\$472,500—\$672,500) more for Motion costs

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### COUNTDOWN TO FINAL PRETRIAL CONFERENCE

### 14. Settlement and ADR

a.	Notify	Counsel	re M	&	C for	Settlement	Procedure	Selection

	Task 73	Prepare for Settlement Negotiations and
	Teals 74	Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
	Task 74 Task 75	Analyze Damages and Remedies
	Task 75 Task 76	Negotiate Settlement Make Offer of Judgment
	Task 70 Task 77	Make Offer of Judgment Consider Arbitration
	Task 78	Try Mediation
	Idsk /0	Try Mediation
b. <u>Mee</u>	et & Confer re Settlement Procee	dure Selection
By [Entry] (Sched. O + 1		ettlement Procedure SelectionLR 16-15.2
c. <u>Pre</u>	bare Settlement Brief	
d. <u>Con</u>	duct Settlement Procedure selec	ted
By <b>[Entry]</b> (FPC - 45)	Parties must complete settleme	ent proceduresLR 16-15.2
	\$ 10,000	(Cum: \$467,500—\$655,500/\$482,500—\$682,500)
15. <u>EVIDEN</u>	<u>ICE</u>	
	A. Gear Up For Trial	
	Task 79	Review Evidence Rules
	Task 80	Develop Trial Plan
	B. Lay and Expert Witnesse	S
	Task 81	Ensure that Client and Witnesses Appear to Testify
	Task 82	Prepare Client and Lay Witnesses to Testify
	Task 83	Ensure that Client and Lay Witnesses' Testimony is Admissible
	Task 84	Prepare Experts to Testify
	Task 85	Ensure that Experts' Testimony is Admissible
	Task 86	Prepare to Use Learned Treatises
	C. Non-Testimonial Evidence	<u>e</u>
	Task 87	Create and Obtain Demonstrative Evidence
	Task 88	Prepare to Offer "Real Evidence"
	Task 89	Prepare to Offer Business Records
	Task 90	Prepare to Offer Public Records
	D. Evidence From Formal I	Discovery
	Task 91	Prepare to Offer Depositions and Other Records of Testimony
	Task 92	Prepare to Offer Responses to Requests for Admission
	Task 93	Prepare to Offer Interrogatory Responses
	E. Evidence Motions and Re	equests
	Task 94	Request Judicial Notice of Facts
	Task 95	Move to Strike Undisclosed Evidence
	Task 96	Prepare Motions in Limine
	Task 96A	Advanced Motions in Limine

**\$ 50,000** (Cum: \$517,500-\$705,500/\$532,500-\$732,500)

#### **16.** FINAL PRETRIAL CONFERENCE

 Task 97
 Request and/or Participate in Final Pretrial Conference

- A. Contact Counsel to schedule pretrial meeting of counsel
- B. Prepare Stipulation of Facts
- C. Prepare Exhibits and Objections to Exhibits
- D. Prepare List of Witnesses
- E. Identify deposition testimony to be lodged as evidence
- F. Prepare Contentions of Law & Fact
- G. Prepare for discussion Expert Witnesses, Evidentiary Issues

On <b>[E</b>	ntry] Parties must conduct pretrial meeting of counsel	LR 16-2
	(FPC - 40) Confirm subject matter jurisdiction	LR 16-2.1
	Stipulation of facts	LR 16-2.2
	Exchange Exhibits (marked according to LR 26-4)	LR 16-2.3
	Exchange List of Witnesses	LR 16-2.4
	Discuss Experts Witnesses	LR 16-2.5
	Resolve Evidentiary Matters	LR 16-2.6
	Identify any deposition testimony to be lodged as evidence	LR 16-2.7
	Prepared contentions of law and fact	LR 16-2.8
	Exhaust settlement possibilities	LR 16-2.9

H. Prepare Memorandum of Contentions of Fact & Law

By [Entry]	Last day to file memorandum of contentions of fact and law	LR 16-4
(FPC - 21)	Claims and Defenses	LR 16-4.1
	Bifurcation of Issues	LR 16-4.3
	Identify issues triable to a jury	LR 16-4.4
	Discuss any claim to attorneys' fees	LR 16-4.5
	Identify any issues abandoned	LR 16-4.6
	Last day to serve and File Witness List	LR 16-5
	Last day to serve and File Joint Exhibit List	LR 16-6.1
	Last day to serve and File Witness List	LR 16-5
	Last day to serve and File Witness List	LR 16-5

- I. Prepare Joint [Proposed] Final Pretrial Conference Order & send to opposing counsel
- J. Finalize Joint [Proposed] Final Pretrial Conference Order
- K. Prepare Join Exhibit List (LR 16.6.1)
- L. Prepare Objections to Exhibits (included in proposed Final Pretrial Conf Order) ...... LR 16-6.3

### DATE FILING/SERVICE PLEADINGS/MOTION PRAC./DISCOVERY, ETC. AUTHORITY

# FINAL PRETRIAL CONFERENCE cont.

Task 98Prepare Final Pretrial Stipulation

By <b>[Entry]</b> Parties must lodge joint proposed final pretrial conference order LR 16-6.1 (FPC - 11 days)
A. Give Notice re Meet & Confer for Motions for Final Pretrial Conference
B. Meet & Confer for Motions for Final Pretrial Conference
C. Prepare Motions for Final Pretrial Conference
On <b>[Entry]</b> at <b>[Day]</b> am/pm Parties must attend <u>final pretrial conference</u> Scheduling Order (FPC)
Dismiss all unserved partiesLR 16-7.1 Motions & Other Proceedings (if not already cut off)LR 16-7.2 Set date for trial (if not already set)LR 16-7.3

**\$ 100,000-\$125,000** (Cum:\$617,500-\$830,500/\$632,500-\$857,500)

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# **COUNTDOWN TO JURY TRIAL**

# 17. TRIAL PROCESS

	Task 101 Task 102 Task 103 Task 104 Task 105 Task 106 Task 108 Task 109	Retain and Use Jury Consultants Create and Use Mock Juries and Focus Groups Prepare Jury Instructions and Verdict Form Prepare for Jury Selection Prepare Voir Dire Questions Prepare Jury Questionnaires Prepare Opening Statement Prepare Direct Examination Plans		
	Task 109	Prepare Cross-Examination Plans		
	Task 111	Prepare to Examine Experts		
A. Prep	are <u>Pretrial Disclosure</u> (wi	itnesses, depositions & exhibits)		
By <b>[Entry]</b> (Trial – 30 d		Disclosure (witnesses, depositions & exhibits)FRCP 26(a)(3)		
B. <u>Disc</u>	losure Requirements Task 23	Make Disclosures 30 Days Before Trial		
C. Prep	are Objections to Pretrial l	Disclosures		
By <b>[Entry]</b> (Trial – 16 d D. Give	ays)	ns to pretrial disclosures (depositions & exhibits)FRCP 26(a)(3) e graphic or illustrative material to be used at trial		
	Parties must disclose all o	other graphic or illustrative material to be used at trialLR 16.3		
	Task 115 Task 99	Prepare Trial Notebook Prepare <u>Trial Brief</u>		
On <u>[Entry]</u> (Trial - 7 days)	Parties must file Trial Bri	<u>ief</u> LR 16-9		
E. Give	E. Give Notice re Meet & Confer re continuance			
F. Meet & Confer re continuance				
G. Prepare Motion/Application for Continuance				
By <b>[Entry]</b> Last day to file any continuanceLR 40-1 (Trial - 5 days)				
H. Prepare Request for Special Verdict or General Verdict with Interrogatories				
By <u>[Entry]</u> (Trial - 7 day	By <b>[Entry]</b> Parties must file request for special verdict or general verdict with InterrogatoriesLR 49-1 (Trial - 7 days)			

# DATE FILING/SERVICE PLEADINGS/MOTION PRAC./DISCOVERY, ETC. AUTHORITY

TRIAL PROCES cont.			
I. Prepare and serve proposed Request	s for Jury Instructions		
By <b>[Entry]</b> Parties must prepare requests for (jury) instructionsLR 51-1 (Trial - 7 days)			
J. <u>Preserving a Right to Appeal</u> Task 118	Preserve Objections Re: Jury Instructions		
K. Prepare Objections to Jury Instructi	ons		
By <b>[Entry]</b> Parties must file with the Cou (Trial - 0)	rt any Objections to the Jury InstructionsLR 51-5		
L. Preserving a Right to Appeal Task 116	Preserve Appeal With Pre-Trial Motions		
On <b>[Entry]</b> at <b>[Day]</b> am/pm JURY TRI (Trial date)	AL TO COMMENCEScheduling Order		
M. <u>TRIAL JMOL PROCESS</u> Task 112 Task 112A Task 113	Move for Judgment and Other Trial Motions Move for Mistrial Oppose Motion for Judgment and Other Trial Motions		
N. <u>Preserving a Right to Appeal</u> Task 117	Preserve Evidentiary Objections for Appeal		
Task 114	Prepare Closing Arguments		
COUNTDOWN TO BENCH TRIAL			
Task 100	Convert Jury Trial to Non-Jury Trial		
By <b>[Entry]</b> Parties must file Findings of F (Trial - 5 court days)	Fact & Conclusions of Law in bench trialLR 52-1		
O. Prepare Findings of Fact & Conclu	sions of Law (Bench Trial)		
Task 107	Prepare Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law		
On <b>[Entry]</b> at <b>[Day]</b> am/pm BENCH T (Trial date)	RIAL TO COMMENCEScheduling Order		
P. Prepare Order for Court			
By <b>[Entry]</b> Parties must serve and lodge ( (Trial + 5 days)	Order with the CourtLR 52-4		
Q. Prepare Separate Objection			
By <b>[Entry]</b> Separate objection, if any, mu (Trial + 7 days)	st be filedLR 52-7		
<b>\$ 100,000</b> (Cum:	\$717,500-\$955,500/\$732,500-\$982,500)		

#### **POST TRIAL**

### **18. POST TRIAL**

A. Pre	pare Findings of Fact & Conclusions of Law (jury verdict)	
By [Entry]	Parties must serve findings of fact and conclusions of law after jury verdict	LR 52-2

(V + 7 days)**B.** Prepare Objection By [Entry] Last day to file separate objection, if any, must be filed .....LR 52-7 (V + 7 days)C. Prepare Motion for New Trial Parties must file any motion for a new trial ...... FRCP 59(b) By [Entry]  $(J + 28 \text{ days}^1)$ D. Prepare Motion for Attorneys' Fees Parties must file and serve motion for attorneys' fees..... LR 54-12 By [Entry] (J + 14 days)E. Prepare Bill of Costs By [Entry] Parties must file Bill of Costs.....LR 54-3 (J + 15 days)F. Prepare Objections to Bill of Costs Objections to Bill of Costs, if any, must be filed .....LR 54-7 By [Entry] (No later than 7 days before date noticed for the Bill of Costs application)

G. Prepare Reply to Objections to Bill of Costs

By	[Entry]	Parties must file reply to objections to Bill of Costs	LR 54-7
	(No later that	1 3 days before date noticed for the Bill of Costs application	)

H. Prepare Notice of Appeal

By	[Entry]	Parties must file any notice of appeal	FRAP	4(a)(1)(A) a	and $4(a)(4)$
	(J + 30 days	or Order on last remaining post-trial motion + 30)			

I. Prepare Other Party Notice of Appeal

By	[Entry]	Other party	must file any	notice of appeal	 	 FRAP 4(a)(3)
-	(Notice of Ap	opeal + 14)				

Review of Clerk's decision.....LR 54-9 By [Entry] (Clerks D + 7 days)

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J. Give Notice of Meet & Confer POST TRIAL cont.

- K. Conduct Meet & Confer
- L. Prepare Motion for Relief From Judgment

\$ 50,000 Cislo & Thomas \$767,500-\$1,005,500/ Cumulative Fees \$782,500-\$1,082,500)

(Fees assume all of the above possible motions.)

AIPLA fee/cost estimate for entire case: Patent Infringement: \$1,500,000—\$4,500,000 Trademark Infringement: \$375,000—\$1,250,000 Copyright Infringement: \$370,000—\$1,450,000

Trade Secret Misappr.: \$500,000-\$2,500,000

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