



litigation. ECF No. 89. The stay has been twice extended for good cause. *See* Minute Order, July 9, 2021; Minute Order, May 9, 2021.

2. Although Federal Defendants and USCCB continue to consider potential avenues for resolution of Plaintiffs' claims without further litigation, the Parties no longer believe that further negotiations are likely to result in settlement of this litigation at this time.

3. Accordingly, the Parties respectfully request that the Court order the Parties to submit a proposal, or competing proposals if necessary, for further proceedings in this litigation by August 20, 2021. A proposed order to that effect is attached to this Joint Status Report for the Court's consideration.

Dated: August 6, 2021

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 6th day of August, 2021, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court via the CM/ECF System, which will send notification of the filing to all counsel of record in this matter.

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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

_____	)	
FATMA MAROUF AND BRYN ESPLIN,	)	
a married couple,	)	
	)	
	)	
<i>Plaintiffs,</i>	)	
	)	
v.	)	Case No. 1:18-cv-378 (APM)
	)	
XAVIER BECERRA, in his official capacity as	)	
Secretary of the UNITED STATES	)	
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN	)	
SERVICES, <i>et al.</i> ,	)	
	)	
<i>Defendants.</i>	)	
_____	)	

**[PROPOSED] ORDER**

Upon consideration of the Parties’ August 6, 2021, Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the report is ADOPTED. The Parties shall submit a proposal, or competing proposals if necessary, for further proceedings in this litigation by August 20, 2021.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amit P. Mehta  
United States District Judge