UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

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FORD MOTOR COMPANY,
Petitioner,
v.

AUTOCONNECT HOLDINGS LLC,
Patent Owner.

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IPR2025-01342
Patent 9,020,697

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**DECLARATION OF WILLIAM R. WOODFORD IN SUPPORT OF AUTOCONNECT HOLDINGS LLC'S NOTICE OF INTENT TO DESIGNATE WILLIAM R. WOODFORD AS A PROVISIONALLY RECOGNIZED PTAB ATTORNEY ELIGIBLE FOR AUTOMATIC *PRO HAC VICE* ADMISSION AS BACK-UP COUNSEL PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 42.10**

***Mail Stop "PATENT BOARD"***
Patent Trial and Appeal Board
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I, William R. Woodford, declare as follows:

1. I am a Partner and Founder at the law firm of Avantech Law, LLP. As described in greater detail below, I satisfy all requirements set forth by the Board for pro hac vice recognition of a provisionally recognized PTAB attorney.

2. I have been practicing patent litigation since 2002 at intellectual property law firms. I have handled numerous patent litigations in federal district court, numerous appeals, and am well acquainted with the laws governing patentability.

3. I am admitted to practice in the State of Minnesota (Bar No. 0322593) and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Bar No. 708018), and I am a member in good standing in both jurisdictions. I am also admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States, the United States of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and Eighth Circuit, as well as the United States District Courts for the District of Minnesota, the District of Colorado, and the Western District of Wisconsin. I am in good standing in all of these federal courts.

4. I have read and will comply with the Office Patent Trial Practice Guide and the Board's Rules of Practice for Trials set forth in part 42 of 37 C.F.R. I acknowledge and agree that I will be subject to the USPTO Code of Professional Responsibility set forth in 37 C.F.R. §§ 11.101 et seq., and to disciplinary jurisdiction under 37 C.F.R. §11.19(a).

5. I have previously applied for *pro hac vice* admission before the Office,



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and have previously been recognized *pro hac vice* in the following proceedings: PGR2025-00041 (which includes all proceedings in which I have applied to appear *pro hac vice* before the USPTO within the last three years). I have never been denied permission to appear *pro hac vice* in a Board proceeding.

6. I am counsel for AutoConnect Holdings LLC in two related litigations in United States District Court involving U.S. Patent No. 9,020,697, including *AutoConnect Holdings LLC v. Toyota Motor Corporation, et al.,* Case No. 2:24-cv-00802 (Eastern District of Texas) and *AutoConnect Holdings LLC v. Ford Motor Company* Case No. 2:24-cv-1327 (District of Delaware).

7. I have never been suspended or disbarred from practice before any court or administrative body. I have never been denied admission to practice before any court or administrative body. No court or administrative body has imposed sanctions or contempt citations against me.

8. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

9. I executed this declaration on April 9, 2026, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Dated: April 9, 2026 Respectfully Submitted,



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/William R. Woodford/
William R. Woodford



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