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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

LOG CABIN REPUBLICANS, a
non-profit corporation,

Plaintiff(s),

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
and DONALD H. RUMSFELD,
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, in
his official capacity,

Defendant(s).

) Case No. CV 04-8425-VAP (Ex)

) **CIVIL TRIAL SCHEDULING ORDER**

) Deadline for Initial Designation of Expert
) Witnesses: January 5, 2010

) Deadline for Designation of Rebuttal Expert
) Witnesses: January 19, 2010

) Discovery Cut-Off: March 15, 2010

) Summary Judgment Motion
) Hearing Cut-Off: April 26, 2010

) Pretrial Conference: June 7, 2010 at 2:30 p.m

) Court Trial: June 14, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.

This case is set for trial before the Honorable Virginia A. Phillips, Courtroom 2,
United States District Court, 3470 Twelfth Street, 2nd Floor, Riverside, California.

1 **Motions**

2 Judge Phillips hears motions in civil cases on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. The cut-off
3 date for hearing motions is the last day on which motions will be heard, i.e., the motion
4 must be filed and served at least 24 days before the deadline, if served by mail, in
5 accordance with the requirements of Local Civil Rule 6-1. **A copy of every document**
6 **filed must be delivered to the chambers drop box outside Courtroom 2 ("the**
7 **mandatory chambers copy")**. The cut-off date applies to all non-discovery motions
8 except motions directly related to the conduct of trial, e.g., motions in limine and motions
9 to sever parties or bifurcate issues for trial. If a cut-off date for hearing motions has not
10 been set by the Court, the cut-off date shall be at least twenty-one (21) days before the
11 Pretrial Conference. All motions in limine and other trial-related motions must be properly
12 noticed for hearing no later than the date of the Pretrial Conference.

13 **All parties and counsel must comply with Local Rule 7-16, which provides as**
14 **follows:**

15 **Any moving party who does not intend to press the motion**
16 **or who intends to withdraw it before the hearing date, any**
17 **opposing party who does not intend to oppose the motion,**
18 **and any party who intends to move for a continuance of**
19 **the hearing of a motion, shall, not later than noon on the**
20 **Tuesday preceding the hearing date, notify opposing**
21 **counsel and the court clerk.**

22 Failure to comply with this notification requirement may result in the imposition of
23 sanctions on the offending counsel and party.

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25 **Discovery**

26 Counsel shall initiate all discovery other than depositions at least forty-five (45) days
27 prior to the cut-off date. The Court will not approve stipulations between counsel which
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1 permit responses to be served after the cut-off date except in unusual circumstances and
2 for good cause shown.

3 All depositions must be completed by the discovery cut-off deadline. Counsel shall
4 lodge all original depositions that will be used in trial with the Courtroom Deputy Clerk on
5 the first day of trial.

6 Discovery should be kept to a minimum and should focus only on issues genuinely
7 in dispute. Counsel are expected to resolve discovery problems without the assistance of
8 the Court. Discovery disputes have been referred to the United States Magistrate Judge
9 assigned to this case. The **discovery cut-off** is the last date to complete discovery,
10 including expert discovery. It is also the last day for hearing any discovery motion.

11 If not separately set forth above, the required expert disclosures shall be made
12 seventy (70) days before the discovery cut-off date.

13 14 **Settlement Procedures**

15 Local Rule 16-2.9 requires the parties in every case to participate in a formal
16 settlement proceeding. Counsel must complete the settlement conference or mediation by
17 the date listed above and shall include in the proposed Pretrial Conference Order a status
18 report detailing what procedure has been followed, and the status of settlement efforts.

19 The following procedures are available:

20 **Settlement Procedure No. 1** - Unless an alternative settlement procedure
21 has been selected by the parties, and with the concurrence of the Court, the parties
22 shall appear before the Court or before the Magistrate Judge assigned to the case
23 for such settlement proceedings as the Court may conduct or direct.

24 **Settlement Procedure No. 2** - The parties shall appear before an attorney
25 selected from the Attorney Settlement Officer Panel, or before an attorney
26 appointed by the Court for settlement proceedings.

27 **Settlement Procedure No. 3** - The parties shall appear before a retired
28 judicial officer or other private dispute resolution body for settlement proceedings.

1 Unless otherwise ordered by the Judge or the Magistrate Judge conducting a
2 settlement conference (whose procedures will apply if different from those set forth here),
3 the parties shall follow the "Requirements for Settlement Procedures" set forth in Local
4 Rule 16-15.5.

5 If a settlement is reached, it shall be reported immediately to this Court as required
6 by Local Rule 16-15.7. **In all cases set for jury trial, the parties must notify the Court,**
7 **no later than the Wednesday preceding the Tuesday trial date, of any settlement, so**
8 **that the necessary arrangements can be made to bring in a different case for trial or**
9 **notify the members of the public who would otherwise be reporting for jury duty**
10 **that their services are not needed that date.**

11 **Failure to comply with this notification requirement may result in the**
12 **imposition of sanctions on counsel for one or more parties, or their clients, or both.**

13 14 Pretrial Conference

15 The Court will conduct a Pretrial Conference in this case pursuant to Federal Rule
16 of Civil Procedure 16 and Local Rule 16-1 on the date and time listed above. Each party
17 appearing in this action shall be represented at the Pretrial Conference and at all pretrial
18 meetings by the lead trial counsel. Counsel should be prepared to discuss streamlining
19 the trial, including presentation of testimony by deposition excerpts, time limits, stipulations
20 as to undisputed facts, and qualification of experts by admitted resumes. In rare cases
21 where the Pretrial Conference is waived by the Court, counsel must follow Local Rule 16-
22 11.2.

23 24 **Pretrial Filings**

25 Counsel shall submit carefully prepared Memoranda of Contentions of Fact and
26 Law (which may also serve as the trial briefs) and proposed Pretrial Conference Orders in
27 accordance with the provisions of Local Rules 16-4 through 16-7. The form of the
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1 proposed Pretrial Conference Order shall be in conformity with the form set forth in
2 Appendix A to the Local Rules.

3 The Memoranda of Contentions of Fact and Law shall be served not later than
4 twenty-one (21) calendar days before the Pretrial Conference. The proposed Pretrial
5 Conference Order shall be lodged seven (7) calendar days before the Pretrial Conference.

6 In drafting the proposed Pretrial Conference Order, counsel shall make a good faith
7 effort to agree on and set forth as many uncontested facts as possible. The Court may
8 read the uncontested facts to the jury at the start of the trial. Carefully drafted and
9 comprehensively stated stipulations of facts will reduce the length of trial and increase the
10 jury's understanding of the case.

11 In drafting the factual issues in dispute for the proposed Pretrial Conference Order,
12 the issues of fact should track the elements of a claim or defense upon which the jury
13 would be required to make findings. Counsel should attempt to state issues in ultimate
14 fact form, not in the form of evidentiary fact issues (i.e., "was the defendant negligent,"
15 "was such negligence the proximate cause of injury to the plaintiff," "was the plaintiff
16 negligent;" not, "was the plaintiff standing on the corner of 5th and Spring at 10:00 a.m. on
17 May 3"). Counsel may list sub-issues under the headings of ultimate fact issues, but
18 should not use this as a device to list disputes over evidentiary matters. In general, the
19 issues of fact should set forth the disputed elements of the claims or affirmative defenses.

20 Issues of law should state legal issues upon which the Court will be required to rule
21 after the Pretrial Conference, including during the trial, and should not list ultimate fact
22 issues to be submitted to the trier of fact.

23 If expert witnesses are to be called at trial, each party shall list and identify its
24 respective expert witnesses. Failure of a party to list and identify an expert witness in the
25 proposed Pretrial Conference Order shall preclude a party from calling that expert witness
26 at trial.

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1 **Exhibit and Witness Lists**

2 Counsel are to prepare their exhibits by placing them in 3-hole notebooks which are
3 tabbed down the right side with exhibit numbers. The notebooks are to be prepared with
4 an original for the Courtroom Deputy Clerk, which shall be tagged with the appropriate
5 exhibit tags in the upper right hand corner of the first page of each exhibit, and one copy
6 for the Court. Each notebook shall contain a list of the included exhibits. The exhibits are
7 to be numbered in accordance with Local Rule 26-3. Counsel can obtain exhibit tags at
8 the Clerk's Office, Room 134, 1st Floor, 3470 Twelfth Street, Riverside.

9 The Court requires the following to be submitted to the Courtroom Deputy Clerk on
10 the first day of trial:

- 11 ● The original exhibits with the Court's exhibit tags. The parties shall
12 use yellow tags for plaintiff and blue tags for defendant, which shall be stapled to
13 the front of the exhibit on the upper right corner with the case number, case name,
14 and exhibit number placed on each tag.
- 15 ● One bench book with a copy of each exhibit for use by the Court,
16 tabbed with numbers as described above. (Court's exhibit tags not necessary.)
- 17 ● Three (3) copies of exhibit lists.

18 The exhibit lists shall be in the form indicated by the following example:

19 Case Title: _____ Case No. _____

No. of Exhibit	Description	<u>Date Identified</u>	<u>Date Admitted</u>
3	1/30/80 letter from Doe to Roe	_____	_____

- 24 ● Three (3) copies of witness lists in the order in which the witnesses
25 may be called to testify.

26 The witness lists shall be in the form indicated by the following example:

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28 Case Title: _____ Case No. _____

1 instruction. Each statement should be on a separate page and should follow directly after
2 the disputed instruction.

3 Accordingly, the parties ultimately will submit one document or, if the parties
4 disagree over any proposed jury instructions, two documents. If the parties submit two
5 documents, those documents should consist of: (1) a set of agreed upon jury instructions
6 and (2) a set of disputed jury instructions along with reasons supporting and opposing
7 each disputed instruction.

8 The parties should make every attempt to agree upon the jury instructions before
9 submitting them to the Court. In addition, where the Manual of Model Civil Jury
10 Instructions for the Ninth Circuit (2001 edition) provides a version of a requested
11 instruction, the parties should submit the Model instruction. Where California law applies,
12 the Court prefers counsel to use *Judicial Council of California, Civil Instructions* - ("CACI").
13 If neither of the above sources has an instruction on the subject, counsel are directed to
14 Edward J. Devitt, *et al.*, *Federal Jury Practice and Instructions* (4th ed. 1987 & Supp.
15 1995). Each requested jury instruction shall cover only one subject or principle of law and
16 shall be numbered and set forth in full on a separate page, citing the authority or source of
17 the requested instruction (except for the jury copy discussed infra at ¶ 26).

18 The Court will send a copy of the jury instructions into the jury room for use by the
19 jury during deliberations. Accordingly, in addition to the file copies described above, the
20 parties shall file with the Courtroom Deputy Clerk on the first day of the trial a "clean set"
21 of joint and/or proposed jury instructions which contain only the text of each instruction set
22 forth in full on each page, with the caption "Court's Instruction Number ____" (eliminating
23 titles, supporting authority, indication of party proposing, etc.). This will be referred to as
24 the "Jury Copy" of the jury instructions.

25 Counsel shall provide the Court with a CD-ROM containing the proposed jury
26 instructions, in WordPerfect or Word, along with the hard copy, no later than the first day
27 of trial.

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1 An index page shall accompany all jury instructions submitted to the Court. The
2 index page shall indicate the following:

- 3 ● The number of the instruction;
- 4 ● A brief title of the instruction;
- 5 ● The source of the instruction and any relevant case citations; and
- 6 ● The page number of the instruction.

7 EXAMPLE:

8	<u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Page</u>
9	1	Burden of Proof	9th Cir. 12.02	7

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12 **Joint Statement of the Case**

13 Counsel shall prepare a joint statement of the case which will be read by the Court
14 to the prospective panel of jurors prior to the commencement of voir dire. The statement
15 should not be longer than two or three paragraphs. The statement shall be filed with the
16 Court seven (7) calendar days before the Pretrial Conference.

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18 **Matters to be Discussed at the Pretrial Conference**

19 Counsel shall be prepared to discuss the following matters with the Court at the
20 Pretrial Conference:

- 21 ● the witnesses all parties intend to call during their respective cases, and the
22 amount of time necessary for direct and cross examination of each witness;
- 23 ● any anticipated problems in scheduling witnesses;
- 24 ● any evidentiary issues, including anticipated objections under Rule 403, and
25 objections to exhibits;
- 26 ● jury selection procedures;
- 27 ● all pretrial motions, including motions in limine, to bifurcate and to sever;

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- any disputed jury instructions, and the form of the instructions which will be given to the jury at the outset of the case, i.e., before opening statements and presentation of evidence;
- whether any counsel intends to use any evidence or demonstrative aid in opening statement; and
- motions to exclude witnesses from the courtroom during trial testimony.

If counsel for any party need to arrange for the installation of its own equipment, such as video monitors, tape or compact disk players, notebooks or overhead projectors, counsel shall notify the Courtroom Deputy Clerk no later than 4:00 p.m. two (2) days before trial so that the necessary arrangements can be made.

Trial

The Court sets firm trial dates. Counsel shall arrive at the Courtroom not later than 8:30 a.m. each day of trial. The Court reserves the time from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. to handle legal and administrative matters outside the presence of the jury. The trial will commence promptly at 9:00 a.m. Counsel shall anticipate matters which may need discussion or hearing outside the presence of the jury and to raise them during this period.

The Court is in session with the jury on Tuesdays through Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with a morning and an afternoon break and a lunch recess from approximately 12:00 to 1:15 p.m. In most cases, jury selection is completed on the first morning of trial, and counsel should be prepared to give opening statements and begin presentation of evidence immediately thereafter.

All counsel are asked to observe the following practices during trial:

- All counsel, defendants, and parties shall rise when the jury enters and leaves the courtroom.
- Counsel shall stand when addressing the Court, including when objecting to opposing counsel's questions.

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- When objecting, counsel should state only "objection," and the legal ground for the objection (e.g., hearsay, irrelevant, etc.). Counsel should refrain from arguing the legal basis for the objection unless permission is granted to do so.
- Counsel must seek leave to approach the Courtroom Deputy Clerk or the witness, and should question witnesses while standing at the lectern.
- Counsel must address all witnesses, including their clients, by the witness's surname. Young witnesses, i.e., children younger than age 15, may be addressed by first names, however.
- Counsel shall not discuss the law or argue the case in opening statements.
- Counsel shall address all remarks to the Court, and should not directly address the Courtroom Deputy Clerk, the Court Reporter, opposing counsel or the jury (except in opening statement and closing argument). Counsel must ask the Court for permission to talk off the record in order to speak with opposing counsel.
- Counsel shall not make an offer of stipulation unless he or she has conferred with opposing counsel and believes that the stipulation will be accepted. Any stipulation of fact will require the defendant's personal concurrence and shall be submitted to the Court in writing for approval.
- While Court is in session, counsel may not leave the counsel table to confer with witnesses, colleagues or assistants in the back of the courtroom unless the Court grants permission to do so in advance.
- When a party has more than one lawyer, only one of the lawyers may conduct the examination of a given witness and only that same lawyer may handle objections during the testimony of that witness.
- If a witness was on the stand before a recess or adjournment, counsel shall have the witness back on the stand and ready to proceed when Court resumes.

- 1 ● If there is more than a brief delay between witnesses, the Court may deem
2 that the party has rested.
- 3 ● The Court attempts to cooperate with witnesses and will, except in
4 extraordinary circumstances, accommodate them by permitting them to be examined out
5 of sequence. Counsel should discuss any scheduling issues with opposing counsel. If
6 there is an objection, confer with the Court in advance.

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Trial Preparation for Court Trials

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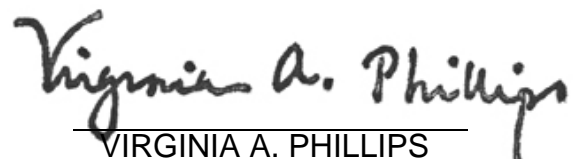
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Counsel are encouraged to review the Central District's website for additional information. The address is "<http://www.cacd.uscourts.gov>".

The Courtroom Deputy Clerk is ordered to serve a copy of this Order personally or by mail on counsel for all parties to this action.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: July 24, 2009



VIRGINIA A. PHILLIPS
United States District Judge