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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

CARL L. JIMENA,	)	No. CV-F-07-367 OWW/SKO
)	
	)	MEMORANDUM DECISION AND
	)	ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFF'S
Plaintiff,	)	"OBJECTIONS TO DOC. 273,
	)	WITH REQUEST TO <i>SUA SPONTE</i>
vs.	)	MODIFY OR RECONSIDER IT"
	)	(Doc. 282) AND VACATING ORAL
UBS AG BANK, et al.,	)	ARGUMENT SET FOR NOVEMBER 8,
	)	2010 RE DOCS. 161, 169 AND
	)	189
)	
Defendants.)	
)	
)	

By Memorandum Decision and Order filed on October 12, 2010, (Doc. 273), Plaintiff's request for reconsideration by the District Court of the Magistrate Judge's Order Denying Plaintiff's Motion to Compel, (Doc. 270), was denied.

On October 21, 2010, Plaintiff filed "Objections to Doc. 273, With Request to *Sua Sponte* Modify It or Reconsider It." (Doc. 282). The Court deems Plaintiff's pleading to be a motion for reconsideration of the Order denying Plaintiff's request for reconsideration of the Order denying Plaintiff's motion to

1 compel.

2 In his Request for Reconsideration, Plaintiff argued that
3 the Magistrate Judge erred in ruling that UBS's responses to
4 discovery were timely, even though they were not served until
5 Monday, July 12, 2010. In denying Plaintiff's request for
6 reconsideration, the Court ruled:

7 The record establishes that Plaintiff dropped
8 off his discovery requests addressed to UBS's
9 counsel at an OfficeMax FedEx drop off
10 location on Sunday, June 6, 2010. Plaintiff
11 did not complete a proof of service for these
12 discovery requests, but retained a receipt
13 showing that he dropped the package off on
14 June 6, 2010. The package was shipped to
15 UBS's counsel by FedEx on Monday, June 7,
16 2010. Plaintiff refers to his Declaration,
17 (Doc. 248, Exh. 5):

18 2. On June 23, 2010, at about 3:15
19 p.m., I had a telephone
20 conversation with Atty. Jacob S.
21 Kreilkamp on the subject of when I
22 served UBS AG with the Request for
23 Admission, Interrogatories, Demand
24 for Production of Documents, all
25 Set No. 1. He asked me when I
26 served UBS AG with the latter
discovery papers, I answered him,
it was on June 6, 2010, a Sunday,
the day proceeding the hearing of
the above entitled case on June 7,
2010. I recorded this conversation
on the attached Exhibit 1, 'Notes
on Conversation with Atty. Jacob S.
Kreilkamp' which I hereby declare
to be true and correct under
penalty of perjury under federal
law and California Laws.

27 The Magistrate Judge ruled:

28 Pursuant to the Federal Rules of
29 Civil Procedure, discovery
30 responses must be served 30 days
following service of the requests.

1 See Fed. R. Civ. P. 33(b)(2). The
2 deadline is extended by an
3 additional three days if the
4 discovery was served by mail. See
5 Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(d). Therefore,
6 if the discovery was served on June
7 6, 2010, the deadline for serving a
8 response was July 9, 2010.

9 UBS asserts that, without the
10 benefit of a proof of service, it
11 had to ascertain when service was
12 completed by Plaintiff. UBS
13 contends that, based on FedEx
14 tracking information, the date of
15 service appeared to be Monday, June
16 7, 2010, the date FedEx's tracking
17 records show that the package was
18 shipped. Counting from June 7,
19 2010, the thirty-third day falls on
20 Saturday, July 10, 2010. According
21 to Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(a)(1)(C),
22 UBS's responses were, therefore,
23 due on Monday, July 12, 2010. UBS
24 argues that, if it miscalculated
25 the response deadline, it was due
26 to Plaintiff's failure to include a
proof of service.

Plaintiff counters that pursuant to
Russell v. City of Milwaukee, 338
F.3d 662, 665-67 (7th Cir.2003),
'the absence of a certificate [of
service] does not require the
invalidation of the paper' where
actual service has been
accomplished. (Joint Statement at
8.)

Russell supports the proposition
that Plaintiff's discovery requests
are not necessarily invalidated due
to a lack of proof of service. In
other words, UBS would not have
been entitled to ignore the
discovery requests based on this
procedural error. Here, neither
party disputes that the discovery
requests were actually received by
UBS - the question is *when* they
were served for purposes of

1 triggering the response deadline.
2 Because the discovery requests were
3 actually served and received - a
4 fact not in dispute - the Court
5 will consider Plaintiff's motion to
6 compel on its merits. Cf. *Willis*
v. Mullins, ..., 2006 WL 2792857,
at *2-3 (E.D.Cal.2006) (proof of
service is largely irrelevant when
service was completed in accord
with Rule 5(b)).

7 Without a proof of service as to
8 the date of mailing, however, the
9 Court will not entertain
10 Plaintiff's argument that UBS's
11 responses to these discovery
12 requests were one day late. It
13 appears that UBS attempted, in the
14 absence of a proof of service, to
determine the deadline for
responses to the discovery in good
faith and did, in fact, serve
discovery responses on the date
that fell 33 days from the date it
ascertained service of the requests
was accomplished.

15 The Court acknowledges Plaintiff's
16 argument that, despite the absence
17 of a proof of service, he can show
18 by other means that service was
19 actually accomplished on June 6,
20 2010. Plaintiff points to a
21 receipt indicating that he dropped
22 off a package with FedEx on June 6,
23 2010, addressed to UBS's counsel
24 and that the discovery itself is
25 dated June 6, 2010. There is no
26 dispute that Plaintiff served the
discovery requests, and the Court
is entertaining Plaintiff's motion
on its merits. Nevertheless, this
does not obviate the need for a
proof of service if Plaintiff
wishes to enforce the 33-day
response deadline under the Federal
Rules of Civil Procedure. See Fed.
R. Civ. P. 33(b)(2), 6(d).
Plaintiff cannot use the Federal
Rules of Civil Procedure as both a

1 sword and a shield against UBS by
2 demanding timely responses to
3 discovery requests that are not
4 accompanied by a proof of service
5 necessary to calculate the response
6 deadline. Under the circumstances,
7 the Court cannot determine that
8 UBS's responses were one day late.

9 Plaintiff argues that he completed service of
10 the discovery requests to UBS when he
11 delivered the package to the FedEx drop off
12 location on June 6, 2010, equating this
13 delivery to depositing a document in the U.S.
14 Mail. Therefore, Plaintiff contends, UBS
15 incorrectly calculated the 33-day period as
16 commencing on June 7, 2010, the date FedEx
17 shipped the package.

18 Although not addressed by the parties, in the
19 Ninth Circuit, service of documents by
20 delivery to FedEx does not constitute service
21 by mail within the meaning of Rule 5. See
22 *Magnuson v. Video Yesteryear*, 85 F.3d 1424,
23 1430-1431 (9th Cir.1996). Consequently,
24 Plaintiff's contention that service was
25 complete when he delivered the package to the
26 FedEx drop off location, thereby starting the
33-day period, is incorrect as a matter of
law. Here, Plaintiff's failure to serve his
discovery requests by U.S. Mail as required
by Rule 5 and his failure to include a proof
of service lead to UBS's confusion about the
time to respond to the discovery requests.
UBS AG in good faith attempted to ascertain
the date FedEx shipped the package and in
good faith provided discovery responses
within the appropriate time period. UBS was
under no obligation to accept Plaintiff's
statement that Plaintiff delivered the
package to FedEx on June 6, 2010. As a
party, Plaintiff is not authorized to serve
discovery and FedEx did not commence its
service until June 7, 2010.

Further, even if UBS's discovery responses
were one day late, the Court would not
exercise its discretion to sanction UBS by
ruling that any objections to Plaintiff's
discovery requests are waived and that
Plaintiff's Request for Admission is deemed

1 admitted. The record establishes that UBS
2 attempted in good faith to timely respond to
3 the discovery requests. Plaintiff has not
4 demonstrated that the Magistrate Judge's
5 ruling is clearly erroneous or contrary to
6 law.

7 Plaintiff now argues that UBS did not have thirty-three days
8 from the June 7, 2010 shipping date to respond to Plaintiff's
9 discovery requests:

10 The truth of the matter is UBS AG misled
11 unknowingly or knowingly the Magistrate
12 Judge, the District Court and the plaintiff
13 that it had 33 days when in fact it had 30
14 days only within which to file its responses.
15 UBS AG cannot legally add three more days
16 under Rule 6(e), FRCP, the Rule which adds
17 three days to computations of time where
18 service is by mail because Fedex [sic] is not
19 mail under Rule 4, 5(b) and 6(e)

20 Plaintiff cites *Magnuson v. Video Yesteryear, supra*, 85 F.3d at
21 1430-1431.

22 In *Magnuson*, the Ninth Circuit addressed whether a Rule 68
23 offer was defectively served, thereby precluding an award of
24 attorney's fees or costs to Defendant. In a case involving a
25 Rule 68 offer, service of process must comply with Rule 5(b).
26 The Ninth Circuit ruled that the district court erred in holding
that service of the Rule 68 offer by Federal Express was
adequate:

Under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure,
manner of service of process is addressed in
both Rule 4 and Rule 5. Rule 4 addresses the
procedure to be followed when serving a
complaint. Rule 5 specifies the procedure to
be followed when serving other papers,
including offers of judgments. Both rules
contain provisions for service by mail.
However, Rule 4, unlike Rule 5, allows a

1 litigant to opt for state law procedures in
2 serving a complaint instead of the federal
3 procedure ... The service-by-mail provisions
4 of Rule 4 are a relatively recent innovation,
5 adopted in a 1983 amendment. In contrast,
6 Rule 5 has permitted service by mail since
7 its adoption, in 1937.

8 85 F.3d at 1430. After noting a split of authority whether
9 delivery by Federal Express is "mail" within the meaning of Rules
10 4 and 5, the Ninth Circuit concluded:

11 If there is any question of whether the term
12 'mail' encompasses private delivery services
13 today, there is little doubt that 'mail'
14 meant 'U.S. mail' in 1937, when Rule 5 was
15 adopted. The suggestion that in failing to
16 specify that mail must be 'first class,
17 postage prepaid' Rule 5 was intended to
18 authorize service by private delivery service
19 in an era that predates modern overnight
20 delivery services makes little sense

21 Nor, on a practical level, does it make sense
22 to adopt an approach that interprets the term
23 'mail' differently for the purposes of
24 different rules within the Federal Rules of
25 Civil Procedure. If we were to hold that
26 Federal Express is 'mail' for the purposes of
Rule 5 (even though it is not for Rule 4), we
would then have to address whether Federal
Express is 'mail' under Rule 6(e), which adds
three days to computations of time where
service is by mail. Given that Federal
Express is generally used for overnight
delivery, one could argue that Congress did
not intend that Rule 6(e) apply to service by
Federal Express, i.e., that Federal Express
is not mail under Rule 6. It seems clear
that in interpreting the term 'mail'
differently for the purposes of different
rules within the Federal Rules of Civil
Procedure, courts are likely to cause great
confusion. Thus, we hold that Federal
Express does not satisfy the requirements of
Rule 5(b).

Id. at 1430-1431. Relying on this statement in *Magnuson*,

1 Plaintiff contends:

2 Applying the above ruling of *Magnuson* case to
3 this case, and even following the incorrect
4 argument of UBS AG that the 'ship date' on
5 June 7, 2010 triggers the counting of the 30
6 days, not 33 days, the 30 days ended on
7 Wednesday, July 7, 2010, making a total of
8 five days tardiness, not just one day late
9 because July 7, 2010 is a Wenesday [sic] so
10 that Saturday July 10, and Sunday, July 11
11 neither of which is a last day, are counted
12 on the tardiness. The question is a matter
of computation of time and there is no good
faith or bad faith in computing the time.
With five days of tardiness, UBS AG cannot
argue that it was late for lack of
certificate of service, because the counting
started on the day it wanted to be counted
which is June 7, 2010, the 'ship date' of
Fedex [sic]. Further since Fedex is not mail
under Rule 5(b), a certificate of service is
irrelevant.

13 As a result of UBS AG's failure to timely respond to Plaintiff's
14 request for admission, Plaintiff asserts, UBS AG is deemed to
15 have admitted it. Plaintiff contends that, because his request
16 for admission is deemed admitted, Plaintiff

17 is entitled to have his Motion to Withdraw
18 Account Coded Escrow, Doc. 161, be [sic]
19 granted immediately followed by either
20 Summary Judgment or Judgment on the Pleadings
21 Doc. 169, in favor of Plaintiff. This will
enable the plaintiff to distribute
immediately the funds to the ultimate
benefactor, the citizens of the U.S.A.,
thereby creating jobs and income.

22 Plaintiff's motion to compel, (Doc. 258), asserts that "[o]n
23 June 6, 2010 plaintiff served the defendants with
24 Interrogatories, Set 1, Demand for Production, Set 2, Request for
25 Admission." However, Plaintiff's motion to compel only described
26 various responses to the interrogatories and the demand for

1 production of documents; no description of the request for
2 admission is given. Plaintiff submitted a copy of the discovery
3 shipped to UBS AG on June 7, 2010 by exhibit filed on September
4 28, 2010, (Doc. 272); this discovery consists only of
5 interrogatories.¹ However, Plaintiff filed a "Joint Statement"
6 on August 3, 2010, (Doc. 248), in support of his motion to compel
7 UBS AG to produce Exhibits 15 and 16, (Doc. 212). Attached as
8 Exhibit One to Plaintiff's "Joint Statement," is a copy of
9 Plaintiff's Request for Admissions dated June 6, 2010.
10 Plaintiff's requests for admission also request UBS AG to admit
11 that each original of 76 specifically described documents is
12 "genuine."

13 Plaintiff's contention that, because service of the
14 discovery requests by FedEx shipment is not service by mail, UBS
15 AG only had 30 days from the shipping date of June 7, 2010 to
16 respond to the discovery requests, does not have merit; absent
17 application of the mail rules, service of these documents was
18 completed upon actual delivery of the documents to UBS AG's
19 attorney, which was on June 8, 2010. In any event, Plaintiff's
20 contention that UBS AG acted in bad faith in asserting that it
21 had 33 days within which to serve its discovery responses is not
22 supported by the record. It is apparent that neither Plaintiff,
23

24 ¹Plaintiff's motion to compel, (Doc. 258), referred to Exhibit
25 One thereto as the discovery requests at issue in the motion to
26 compel. Plaintiff neglected to attach the exhibit to the motion
and only filed it with the Court on September 28, 2010, after the
Magistrate Judge noted its absence from the record.

1 UBS AG, or the Magistrate Judge were aware of the *Magnuson* case
2 when addressing the timeliness of UBS AG's discovery responses.
3 The record is clear that UBS AG attempted in good faith to timely
4 respond to Plaintiff's discovery requests. There is nothing
5 before the Court that shows UBS AG ignored Plaintiff's discovery
6 requests or deliberately failed to respond to them in a timely
7 manner.

8 As to the requests for admission, Plaintiff is correct that
9 Rule 36(a) (3), Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, provides:

10 A matter is admitted unless, within 30 days
11 after being served, the party to whom the
12 request is directed serves on the requesting
13 party a written answer or objection addressed
14 to the matter and signed by the party or its
15 attorney. A shorter or longer period for
16 responding may be stipulated to under Rule 29
17 or be ordered by the court.

18 However, Rule 36(b) provides:

19 A matter admitted under this rule is
20 conclusively established unless the court, on
21 motion, permits the admission to be withdrawn
22 or amended. Subject to Rule 16(e), the court
23 may permit withdrawal or amendment if it
24 would promote the prosecution of the merits
25 of the action and if the court is not
26 persuaded that it would prejudice the
27 requesting party in maintaining or defending
28 the action on the merits.

29 "Rule 36(b) is permissive, not mandatory, with respect to the
30 withdrawal of admissions. *Conlon v. United States*, 474 F.3d 616,
31 621 (9th Cir.2007). 'The first half of the test in Rule 36(b) is
32 satisfied when upholding the admissions would practically
33 eliminate any presentation of the merits of the case.'" *Id.* at
34 622. The party relying on the deemed admissions has the burden

1 of proving prejudice. *Id.* "The prejudice contemplated by Rule
2 36(b) is 'not simply that the party who obtained the admission
3 will now have to convince the factfinder of its truth. Rather,
4 it relates to the difficulty a person may face in proving its
5 case, e.g., caused by the unavailability of key witnesses,
6 because of the sudden need to obtain evidence' with respect to
7 the questions previously deemed admitted." *Hadley v. United*
8 *States*, 45 F.3d 1345, 1348 (9th Cir.1995). "Reliance on a deemed
9 admission in preparing a summary judgment motion does not
10 constitute prejudice." *Conlon, id.* at 624. However, even if the
11 moving party satisfies the two-pronged test, the Court retains
12 discretion to deny the motion. *Id.* at 624-625. "[I]n deciding
13 whether to exercise its discretion when the moving party has met
14 the two-pronged test of Rule 36(b), the district court may
15 consider other factors, including whether the moving party can
16 show good cause for the delay and whether the moving party
17 appears to have a strong case on the merits." *Id.* at 625. Even
18 if Plaintiff is correct that UBS AG's responses to his requests
19 for admission were due on July 7 or July 8, 2010, the responses
20 were submitted 4 or 5 days late. For the reasons previously
21 stated, the Court would entertain a motion by UBS Ag to be
22 relieved from the deemed admissions. UBS AG attempted in good
23 faith to timely respond to Plaintiff's discovery requests; the
24 confusion in this matter was caused in large part by Plaintiff's
25 failure to serve the discovery requests by U.S. Mail accompanied
26 by a proof of service. The deemed admissions would essentially

1 preclude UBS AG from defending this action in which Plaintiff
2 seeks millions of dollars in damages based on alleged fraud.

3 However, in order to be relieved from the deemed admissions,
4 UBS AG is required to file a motion. Plaintiff filed a motion
5 for order to allow Plaintiff to withdraw account coded escrow
6 (Doc. 161) on October 15, 2009 and a motion for judgment on the
7 pleadings (Doc. 169) on November 5, 2009, and that UBS AG filed a
8 motion for summary judgment (Doc. 189) on March 1, 2010. Hearing
9 on these motions were continued so that Plaintiff could conduct
10 discovery as to the Yahoo! account of Clive Standish. These
11 three motions are set for hearing on Monday, November 8, 2010.
12 Plaintiff is attempting to use these deemed admissions made
13 months after his dispositive motions were filed to compel the
14 granting of his motions. Because resolution of these dispositive
15 motions will depend in part upon whether UBS AG's motion to be
16 relieved from the deemed admissions, the Court vacates the
17 hearing of these motions, (Docs. 161, 169 and 189), pending final
18 resolution of UBS AG's motion to be so relieved.

19 Plaintiff objects to the Court's conclusion that
20 "Plaintiff's failure to serve his discovery requests by U.S. Mail
21 as required by Rule 5 and his failure to include a proof of
22 service lead [sic] to UBS's confusion about the time to respond
23 to the discovery requests." Plaintiff argues that his failure to
24 include a proof of service is "irrelevant" because service by
25 FedEx is not service by mail within the meaning of Rule 5.
26 Plaintiff's contention is incorrect. Rule 135(c), Local Rules of

1 Practice, provides:

2 When service of any pleading, notice, motion,
3 or other document required to be served is
4 made, proof of such service shall be endorsed
5 upon or affixed to the original of the
6 document when it is lodged or filed ... Proof
7 of service shall be under penalty of perjury
8 and shall include the date, manner and place
9 of service.

10 Plaintiff further contends that his "failure to serve his
11 discovery requests by U.S. Mail as required by Rule 5" should be
12 excused because "about 93% of the total certificate of service of
13 papers served by UBS AG to plaintiff are via Fedex [sic]."

14 Plaintiff argues:

15 Since, UBS AG serves its papers to the
16 plaintiff via Fedex [sic], there is no reason
17 why plaintiff could not use Fedex [sic] in
18 serving its papers to UBS AG as he did in
19 serving his discovery papers. Both UBS AG
20 and the plaintiff have no objection of
21 serving each other with documents via Fedex
22 [sic] because this is the more efficient
23 manner of getting papers served. In no
24 instance did UBS AG object to being served by
25 the plaintiff himself overcoming the Court's
26 statement that 'As a party, Plaintiff is not
authorized to serve discovery' ... which is
deemed waived by UBS AG ... [I]f UBS AG
serves about 97% of its papers by Fedex
[sic], why can the plaintiff not use Fedex as
the same medium for service? Consent of UBS
AG to be served via Fedex [sic] is taken from
UBS AG using Fedex [sic] as the manner of
service to the plaintiff.

27 Plaintiff misunderstands the Court's ruling. Plaintiff's
28 motion to compel sought to impose sanctions against UBS AG for
29 its alleged failure to timely respond to Plaintiff's discovery
30 requests. Plaintiff's position was that service of the discovery
31 requests was complete when he delivered the package to FedEx for

1 delivery to UBS AG, relying on Rule 5. This is the contention
2 the Court addressed. No where has the Court ruled that service
3 of documents by FedEx is of itself improper under the Federal
4 Rules of Civil Procedure. Plaintiff's contention that UBS AG
5 impliedly consented to service of the discovery package by FedEx
6 by using FedEx itself does not compel reconsideration of the
7 Court's ruling. Rule 5(b)(2)(F) provides that a paper may be
8 served under this rule by:

9 delivering it by any other means that the
10 person consented to in writing - in which
11 event service is complete when the person
 making service delivers it to the agency
 designated for service.

12 Plaintiff makes no showing that UBS AG consented to service via
13 FedEx in writing.

14 Plaintiff argues that his declaration quoted in the Order
15 wherein Plaintiff avers that he told Mr. Kreilkamp on June 23,
16 2010 that Plaintiff had served the discovery requests on June 6,
17 2010, constitutes actual notice of the date of service. In
18 *Magnuson, supra*, 85 F.3d at 1431, the Ninth Circuit ruled:

19 [T]he next question we must address is
20 whether actual notice in this case suffices.
21 We hold that it does not. In *Smiley*, the
 court stated that

22 *actual notice by a means other than*
23 *that authorized by Rule 5(b) does*
24 *not constitute valid service and is*
25 *not an exception to the rule.*
26 Therefore, a party must advance
 some other compelling
 circumstances, in addition to
 actual notice in order to have the
 Court excuse noncompliance with
 Rule 5(b).

1 136 F.R.D. at 420. In that case, the
2 plaintiff alleged that service of a discovery
3 request by fax was invalid ... The court
4 found 'exceptional good cause' because the
5 receiving party has explicitly consented to
6 service of discovery requests by fax on
7 several previous occasions ... We adopt the
8 rule of *Smiley* and require that a party
9 demonstrate exceptional good cause for
10 failing to comply with Rule 5(b).

11 Here, there is no indication of good cause.
12 VY declined to address Magnuson's argument
13 that the offer was not validly served, or
14 alternatively, untimely, in either its
15 opening or reply briefs. It has not
16 explained why it could not have served
17 Magnuson personally and has not presented
18 evidence that Magnuson consented to service
19 by fax or by Federal Express. Because VY did
20 not serve its Rule 68 offer in compliance
21 with Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(b) and did not offer
22 good cause for its failure to validly serve
23 the offer, we reverse the district court's
24 award of costs to VY pursuant to Rule 68.

25 85 F.3d at 1431. [Emphasis added]. Relying on *Magnuson*,
26 Plaintiff contends:

1 The above actual notice to UBS AG as quoted
2 by this Court puts on notice to UBS AG that
3 service of the discovery papers including the
4 Requests for Admission was made on June 6,
5 2010. This actual notice taken together with
6 the compelling circumstances consisting of
7 about 97% of the certificate of service of
8 papers served on the plaintiff by UBS AG
9 appearing on the Docket Register Judicial
10 Notice of which is hereby invited results in
11 an effective and valid service excusing
12 compliance with Rule 5(b) and making a
13 certificate of service irrelevant.

14 Plaintiff's contention does not mandate reconsideration of
15 the Court's Order. As noted, Plaintiff presents no evidence that
16 UBS AG consented in writing to service of any papers by FedEx.
17 Further, as the Court has ruled, even if Plaintiff's position is

1 sustainable, in view of UBS AG's consistent denial of these
2 facts, it is unreasonable to exercise discretion in favor of
3 imposing sanctions on UBS AG for its alleged failure to timely
4 respond to Plaintiff's discovery requests. The record
5 establishes that UBS AG in good faith attempted to timely respond
6 to the discovery requests.

7 Plaintiff seeks reconsideration of the Court's conclusion:

8 Plaintiff objects that UBS cannot contend
9 that the documents he produced in initial
10 disclosure are fraudulent because UBS did not
11 allege fraud with particularity as required
12 by Rule 9(b), Federal Rules of Civil
13 Procedure, in its Answer to the Third Amended
14 Complaint. Plaintiff cites no authority that
15 Rule 9(b) has any application to a defense
16 based on fraud or forgery. Independent
17 research indicates that Plaintiff's position
18 is baseless. See *Eastover Corporation v.*
19 *Rhodes*, 1992 WL 2455568 at *4-5 (E.D.La.,
20 Sept. 8, 1992).¹

21 ¹Rule 9(b) does apply to a defendant's
22 counterclaim against a plaintiff. See *NCR*
23 *Credit Corp. v. Reptron Electronics, Inc.*,
24 155 F.R.D. 690, 693 (M.D.Fla.1994). Here,
25 however, UBS has not alleged any
26 counterclaims against Plaintiff.

27 Plaintiff refers the Court to his "Objections to Allegations
28 of Forgery and False Impersonation" filed on May 20, 2010.

29 (Doc. 203). Plaintiff asserts that he cited authorities in Doc.
30 203 to support his contention that fraud must be alleged with
31 particularity even in a defense to a claim. Doc. 203 quotes the
32 Court's "Memorandum Decision and Order Denying Plaintiff's Motion
33 for Remand and Motion to Strike; Granting Defendants' Motion to
34 Dismiss with Leave to Amend" filed on June 8, 2007 (Doc. 18),

1 where the Court addressed Defendants' motion to dismiss:

2 Rule 9(b) requires that allegations of fraud
3 are specific enough to give defendants notice
4 of the particular misconduct which is alleged
5 to constitute the fraud so that they can
6 defend against the charge and not just deny
7 that they have done anything wrong. *Celado*
8 *Int'l, Ltd. v. Walt Disney Co.*, 347 F.Supp.2d
9 846, 855 (C.D.Cal.2004); see also *Neubronner*
10 *v. Milken*, 6 F.3d 666, 671 (9th
11 Cir.1993) (internal quotations omitted). A
12 pleading is sufficient under Rule 9(b) if it
13 identifies the circumstances constituting the
14 fraud so that the defendant can prepare an
15 adequate answer from the allegations.
16 *Neubronner*, 6 F.3d at 671. The complaint
must specify such facts as the times, dates,
places and other details of the alleged
fraudulent activity. *Id.* It is established
law in the Ninth Circuit and elsewhere, that
Fed. R. Civ. P.'s particularity requirement
applies to state-law causes of action. *Vess*
v. Ciba-Geigy Corp., USA, 317 F.3d 1097, 1103
(9th Cir.2003). While a federal court will
examine state law to determine whether the
elements of fraud have been pled sufficiently
to state a cause of action, the Rule 9(b)
requirement that the circumstances of the
fraud must be stated with particularity is a
federally imposed rule. *Id.*

17 The Court's Order addressed the pleading requirements applicable
18 to a plaintiff asserting a claim for fraud against a defendant.
19 All of the cases cited in the Order involved such a scenario and
20 do not constitute authority that Rule 9(b) has any application to
21 a defense to an action based on the contentions that the
22 documents upon which Plaintiff relies in seeking affirmative
23 relief are false or fraudulent.

24 For the reasons stated:

25 1. Plaintiff's "Objections to Doc. 273, With Request to Sua
26 *Sponte* Modify It or Reconsider It" are DENIED;

1 2. No further requests for reconsideration of the rulings
2 in connection with Plaintiff's motion to compel, (Doc. 258),
3 filed on August 20, 2010 will be entertained;

4 3. The hearing on Plaintiff's motion for order to allow
5 Plaintiff to withdraw account coded escrow (Doc. 161),
6 Plaintiff's motion for judgment on the pleadings (Doc. 169), and
7 UBS AG's motion for summary judgment (Doc. 189), set for Monday,
8 November 8, 2010 is VACATED pending resolution of UBS AG's motion
9 to be relieved from deemed admissions. The parties shall re-
10 notice the motions for hearing and, if necessary, submit
11 supplemental briefs and/or declarations in support or opposition
12 to these motions upon final resolution of the deemed admissions
13 issues.

14 IT IS SO ORDERED.

15 Dated: November 3, 2010

/s/ Oliver W. Wanger
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE