

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

KELVIN X. SINGLETON,

1:08-cv-00095-AWI-GSA PC

Plaintiff,

ORDER SETTING SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

vs.

S. LOPEZ, et al.,

Defendants.

February 5, 2015, at 10:00 a.m.
U.S. District Court, Sacramento
Courtroom #8
Magistrate Judge Edmund F. Brennan

20 Plaintiff is a prisoner proceeding with counsel in a civil rights action pursuant to 42
21 U.S.C. § 1983. On July 17, 2014, the court issued an order requiring the parties to notify the
22 court whether a settlement conference would be beneficial. (Doc. 211.) After a review of the
23 parties' responses, the court has determined that this case would benefit from a settlement
24 conference. Therefore, this case will be referred to Magistrate Judge Edmund F. Brennan to
25 conduct a settlement conference at the U. S. District Court, 501 I Street, Sacramento, California
26 95814 in Courtroom #8 on February 5, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

27 A separate order and writ of habeas corpus ad testificandum will issue concurrently with
28 this order.

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2 In accordance with the above, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

3 1. This case is set for a settlement conference before Magistrate Judge Edmund F.
4 Brennan on February 5, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the U. S. District Court, 501 I Street,
5 Sacramento, California 95814 in Courtroom #8.

6 2. Counsel for Plaintiff and counsel for Defendants shall attend in person.

7 3. A representative with full and unlimited authority to negotiate and enter into a
8 binding settlement on the Defendants' behalf shall attend in person.¹

9 4. The court will make arrangements for Plaintiff to appear at the settlement
10 conference from his present place of confinement, by telephone.

11 5. Those in attendance must be prepared to discuss the claims, defenses and damages.
12 The failure of any counsel, party or authorized person subject to this order to
13 appear in person may result in the imposition of sanctions. In addition, the
14 conference will not proceed and will be reset to another date.

15 6. Each party shall submit confidential settlement statements to chambers seven (7)
16 days prior to the settlement conference. Statements may be e-mailed to
17 efborders@caed.uscourts.gov. Such statements are neither to be filed with the
18 clerk nor served on opposing counsel. However, each party shall e-file a one page
19 document entitled Notice of Submission of Confidential Settlement Statement (See
20 L.R. 270(d)). Settlement statements shall be clearly marked "confidential" with
21 the date and time of the settlement conference indicated prominently thereon. The

22 ¹ While the exercise of its authority is subject to abuse of discretion review, "the district court has the authority to
23 order parties, including the federal government, to participate in mandatory settlement conferences...." United States
v. United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, 694 F.3d 1051, 1053, 1057, 1059 (9th Cir.
24 2012)(“the district court has broad authority to compel participation in mandatory settlement conference[s].”). The
25 term “full authority to settle” means that the individuals attending the mediation conference must be authorized to
26 fully explore settlement options and to agree at that time to any settlement terms acceptable to the parties. G.
Heileman Brewing Co., Inc. v. Joseph Oat Corp., 871 F.2d 648, 653 (7th Cir. 1989), cited with approval in Official
Airline Guides, Inc. v. Goss, 6 F.3d 1385, 1396 (9th Cir. 1993). The individual with full authority to settle must also
27 have “unfettered discretion and authority” to change the settlement position of the party, if appropriate. Pittman v.
Brinker Int'l., Inc., 216 F.R.D. 481, 485-86 (D. Ariz. 2003), amended on recon. in part, Pittman v. Brinker Int'l, Inc.,
2003 WL 23353478 (D. Ariz. 2003). The purpose behind requiring the attendance of a person with full settlement
28 authority is that the parties’ view of the case may be altered during the face to face conference. Pitman, 216 F.R.D.
at 486. An authorization to settle for a limited dollar amount or sum certain can be found not to comply with the
requirement of full authority to settle. Nick v. Morgan's Foods, Inc., 270 F.3d 590, 596-97 (8th Cir. 2001).

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2 parties may agree, or not, to serve each other with the settlement statements. Each
3 party is reminded of the requirement that it be represented in person at the
4 settlement conference by a person able to dispose of the case or fully authorized to
5 settle the matter at the settlement conference on any terms. See Local Rule 270.
6 The confidential settlement statement shall be **no longer than five pages** in length
7 and include the following:

- 8 a. A brief statement of the facts of the case.
- 9 b. A brief statement of the claims and defenses, i.e., statutory or other grounds
10 upon which the claims are founded; a forthright evaluation of the parties'
11 likelihood of prevailing on the claims and defenses; and a description of the
12 major issues in dispute.
- 13 c. A summary of the proceedings to date.
- 14 d. An estimate of the cost and time to be expended for further discovery, pretrial,
15 and trial.
- 16 e. The relief sought.
- 17 f. The party's position on settlement, including present demands and offers and a
18 history of past settlement discussions, offers, and demands.
- 19 g. A brief statement of each party's expectations and goals for the settlement
20 conference.

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22 IT IS SO ORDERED.

23 Dated: November 26, 2014

24 /s/ Gary S. Austin
25 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
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