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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
FRESNO DIVISION

TOM STEVE CORIC,)	Case No. 08cv1225-JTM (BLM)
)	
Plaintiff,)	CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE
v.)	ORDER REGULATING DISCOVERY AND
)	OTHER PRETRIAL PROCEEDINGS
MARGRET MIMS, COUNTY OF FRESNO,)	
)	(Fed. R. Civ. P. 16)
Defendants.)	(Fed. R. Civ. P. 26)
_____)	

The Court determines that neither an Early Neutral Evaluation Conference nor a Case Management Conference are needed in this case. The Court issues the following orders:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Any motion to join other parties, to amend the pleadings, or to file additional pleadings shall be filed on or before **June 1, 2009**.
2. Each party shall serve on all opposing parties a list of experts, whom that party expects to call at trial, on or before **September 1, 2009**. Each party may supplement its designation in response to the other party's designation no later than **September 15, 2009**. Expert designations shall include the name, address, and telephone number of each expert and a reasonable summary of the

1 testimony the expert is expected to provide. The list shall also
2 include the normal rates the expert charges for deposition and trial
3 testimony.

4 The parties must identify any person who may be used at trial to
5 present evidence pursuant to Rules 702, 703 or 705 of the Federal Rules
6 of Evidence. This requirement is not limited to retained experts.

7 **Please be advised that failure to comply with this section or any**
8 **other discovery order of the Court may result in the sanctions provided**
9 **for in Fed. R. Civ. P. 37, including a prohibition on the introduction**
10 **of experts or other designated matters in evidence.**

11 3. All expert disclosures required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)
12 shall be served on all parties on or before **November 2, 2009**. Any
13 contradictory or rebuttal information shall be disclosed on or before
14 **November 16, 2009**. In addition, Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(e)(2) imposes a duty
15 on the parties to supplement the expert disclosures made pursuant to
16 Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(B) by the time that pretrial disclosures are
17 due under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(3) (discussed below).

18 The parties are advised to consult with Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)
19 regarding expert disclosures. Such disclosures shall include an expert
20 report, all supporting materials, a complete statement of all opinions
21 to be expressed and the basis and reasons therefor, the data or other
22 information considered by the expert in forming the opinions, any
23 exhibits to be used as a summary of or support for the opinions, the
24 qualifications of the witness including a list of all publications
25 authored by the witness within the preceding ten years, the compensation
26 to be paid for the study and testimony, and a list of other cases in
27 which the witness has testified as an expert at trial or by deposition
28 within the preceding four years.

1 This disclosure requirement applies to all persons retained or
2 specially employed to provide expert testimony, or whose duties as an
3 employee of the party regularly involve the giving of expert testimony.

4 **Please be advised that failure to comply with this section or any**
5 **other discovery order of the Court may result in the sanctions provided**
6 **for in Fed. R. Civ. P. 37, including a prohibition on the introduction**
7 **of experts or other designated matters in evidence.**

8 4. All discovery shall be completed by all parties on or before
9 **January 2, 2010**. "Completed" means that all discovery under Rules 30-36
10 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and discovery subpoenas under
11 Rule 45, must be initiated a sufficient period of time in advance of the
12 cut-off date, so that it may be completed by the cut-off date, taking
13 into account the times for service, notice, and response as set forth in
14 the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

15 Counsel shall promptly and in good faith meet and confer with
16 regard to all discovery disputes in compliance with Fed. R. Civ. P.
17 37(a)(1). **All discovery motions shall be filed within thirty (30) days**
18 **after counsel have met and conferred and reached an impasse with regard**
19 **to any particular discovery issue, but in no event shall discovery**
20 **motions be filed more than sixty (60) days after the date upon which the**
21 **event giving rise to the discovery dispute occurred.** For oral
22 discovery, the event giving rise to the discovery dispute is the
23 completion of the transcript of the affected portion of the deposition.
24 For written discovery, the event giving rise to the discovery dispute is
25 either the service of the response, or, if no response was served, the
26 initial date the response was due. **In addition, all discovery motions**
27 **must be filed within thirty (30) days after the close of discovery.**

28 5. All other pretrial motions must be filed on or before **February**

1 2, 2010. Motions will not be heard or calendared unless counsel for the
2 moving party has obtained a motion hearing date from the law clerk of
3 the judge who will hear the motion. Failure to timely request a motion
4 date may result in the motion not being heard.

5 Briefs or memoranda in support of or in opposition to any pending
6 motion shall not exceed twenty-five (25) pages in length without leave
7 of the judge who will hear the motion. No reply memorandum shall exceed
8 ten (10) pages without leave of the judge who will hear the motion.

9 6. A Mandatory Settlement Conference shall be conducted on
10 January 11, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. in the chambers of Magistrate Judge
11 Barbara L. Major located at 940 Front Street, Suite 5140, San Diego, CA
12 92101. All discussions at the Mandatory Settlement Conference will be
13 informal, off the record, privileged, and confidential. Counsel for any
14 non-English speaking party is responsible for arranging for the
15 appearance of an interpreter at the conference.

16 a. Personal Appearance of Parties Required: All parties,
17 adjusters for insured defendants, and other representatives of a party
18 having full and complete authority to enter into a binding settlement,
19 as well as the principal attorneys responsible for the litigation, must
20 be present in person and legally and factually prepared to discuss
21 settlement of the case. Counsel appearing without their clients
22 (whether or not counsel has been given settlement authority) will be
23 cause for immediate imposition of sanctions and may also result in the
24 immediate termination of the conference.

25 Unless there are extraordinary circumstances, persons required to
26 attend the conference pursuant to this Order shall not be excused from
27 personal attendance. **Requests for excuse from attendance for**
28 **extraordinary circumstances shall be made in writing at least three (3)**

1 **court days prior to the conference.** Failure to appear **in person** at the
2 Mandatory Settlement Conference will be grounds for sanctions.

3 b. **Full Settlement Authority Required:** In addition to
4 counsel who will try the case, a party or party representative with **full**
5 **settlement authority**¹ must be present for the conference. In the case
6 of a corporate entity, an authorized representative of the corporation
7 who is not retained outside counsel must be present and must have
8 discretionary authority to commit the company to pay an amount up to the
9 amount of Plaintiff's prayer (excluding punitive damages prayers). The
10 purpose of this requirement is to have representatives present who can
11 settle the case during the course of the conference without consulting
12 a superior. Counsel for a government entity may be excused from this
13 requirement so long as the government attorney who attends the Mandatory
14 Settlement Conference (1) has primary responsibility for handling the
15 case, and (2) may negotiate settlement offers which the attorney is
16 willing to recommend to the government official having ultimate
17 settlement authority.

18 c. **Confidential Settlement Statements Required:** No later
19 than **January 4, 2010**, the parties shall submit directly to Magistrate
20

21 ¹ "Full settlement authority" means that the individuals at the settlement
22 conference must be authorized to explore settlement options fully and to agree at that
23 time to any settlement terms acceptable to the parties. Heileman Brewing Co. v. Joseph
24 Oat Corp., 871 F.2d 648, 653 (7th Cir. 1989). The person needs to have "unfettered
25 discretion and authority" to change the settlement position of a party. Pitman v.
26 Brinker Int'l, Inc., 216 F.R.D. 481, 485-86 (D. Ariz. 2003). The purpose of requiring
27 a person with unlimited settlement authority to attend the conference contemplates that
28 the person's view of the case may be altered during the face to face conference. Id.
at 486. A limited or a sum certain of authority is not adequate. See Nick v. Morgan's
Foods, Inc., 270 F.3d 590, 595-97 (8th Cir. 2001).

1 Judge Major's chambers confidential settlement statements no more than
2 five (5) pages in length. **These confidential statements shall not be**
3 **filed or served on opposing counsel.** Each party's confidential
4 statement must include the following:

5 (i) A brief description of the case, the claims and/or
6 counterclaims asserted, and the applicable defenses or position
7 regarding the asserted claims;

8 (ii) A specific and current demand or offer for
9 settlement addressing all relief or remedies sought. If a specific
10 demand or offer for settlement cannot be made at the time the brief is
11 submitted, then the reasons therefore must be stated along with a
12 statement as to when the party will be in a position to state a demand
13 or make an offer; and

14 (iii) A brief description of any previous settlement
15 negotiations, mediation sessions, or mediation efforts.

16 General statements that a party will "negotiate in good faith" is
17 not a specific demand or offer contemplated by this Order. It is
18 assumed that all parties will negotiate in good faith.

19 d. **Requests to Continue a Mandatory Settlement Conference:**

20 Any request to continue the Mandatory Settlement Conference or request
21 for relief from any of the provisions or requirements of this Order must
22 be sought by a **written ex parte application.** The application must (1)
23 be supported by a declaration of counsel setting forth the reasons and
24 justifications for the relief requested, and (2) report the position of
25 opposing counsel or any unrepresented parties subject to the Order.
26 **Absent extraordinary circumstances, requests for continuances will not**
27 **be considered unless submitted in writing no fewer than seven (7) days**
28 **prior to the scheduled conference.**

1 If the case is settled in its entirety before the scheduled date of
2 the conference, counsel and any unrepresented parties must still appear
3 in person, unless a written joint notice confirming the complete
4 settlement of the case is filed no fewer than twenty-four (24) hours
5 before the scheduled conference.

6 7. If Plaintiff is incarcerated in a penal institution or other
7 facility, Plaintiff's presence is not required at conferences before
8 Judge Major, and Plaintiff may appear by telephone. In that case,
9 defense counsel is to coordinate Plaintiff's appearance by telephone.

10 8. The parties must comply with the pretrial disclosure
11 requirements of Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(3) no later than May 14, 2010.
12 The parties should consult Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(3) for the substance of
13 the required disclosures.

14 **Please be advised that failure to comply with this section or any**
15 **other discovery order of the Court may result in the sanctions provided**
16 **for in Fed. R. Civ. P. 37, including a prohibition on the introduction**
17 **of designated matters in evidence.**

18 9. No Memoranda of Contentions of Fact and Law are to be filed
19 unless so ordered by the Court.

20 10. Counsel shall meet and confer on or before May 21, 2010. At
21 this meeting, counsel shall discuss and attempt to enter into
22 stipulations and agreements resulting in simplification of the triable
23 issues. Counsel shall exchange copies and/or display all exhibits other
24 than those to be used for impeachment, lists of witnesses and their
25 addresses including experts who will be called to testify, and written
26 contentions of applicable facts and law. Counsel shall cooperate in the
27 preparation of the proposed final pretrial conference order.

28 11. The proposed final pretrial conference order, including

1 written objections, if any, to any party's Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(3)
2 pretrial disclosures, shall be prepared, served, and submitted to the
3 Clerk's Office on or before May 28, 2010. Any objections shall comply
4 with the requirements of Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(3). **Please be advised**
5 **that the failure to file written objections to a party's pretrial**
6 **disclosures may result in the waiver of such objections, with the**
7 **exception of those made pursuant to Rules 402 (relevance) and 403**
8 **(prejudice, confusion or waste of time) of the Federal Rules of**
9 **Evidence.**

10 12. The final pretrial conference is scheduled on the calendar of
11 the Honorable Jeffrey T. Miller on June 4, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. The trial
12 is scheduled to commence on July 6, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

13 13. The dates and times set forth herein will not be modified
14 except for good cause shown.

15 14. Plaintiff's counsel shall serve a copy of this order on all
16 parties that enter this case hereafter.

17 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

18
19 DATED: April 29, 2009

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21 BARBARA L. MAJOR
22 United States Magistrate Judge