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

OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

v.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT

1:08-cv-1469 AWI SMS

ORDER FOR ADDITIONAL BRIEFING TO BE FILED BY 4:00 P.M. JULY 13, 2010

TIMELESS INVESTMENTS, INC. dba EZ TRIP GOLDEN STATE CONVENIENCE AND AUTO/TRUCK PLAZA, and DOES 1-5, inclusive,

Defendant.

Currently pending before the Court is Defendant's motion for summary judgment, which is set for hearing on July 26, 2010.¹ In Defendant's motion, Defendant argues in part that Plaintiff failed to engage in good faith conciliation efforts as required by 29 U.S.C. § 626(d). See Court's Docket Doc. No. 31- at p.11. Defendant requests that the Court dismiss the case and award attorney's fees for Plaintiff's alleged failure to properly conciliate. See id.

Prior to filing suit under the ADEA, the EEOC must attempt conciliation with the employer. 29 U.S.C. § 626(d); <u>EEOC v. Pan American World Airways, Inc.</u>, 897 F.2d 1499, 1505 n.5 (9th Cir. 1990); <u>see also EEOC v. Bruno's Restaurant</u>, 13 F.3d 285, 288 (9th Cir. 1992).

¹Plaintiff also has a motion for summary judgment set for hearing on July 26, 2010. However, this order concerns an argument made in Defendant's motion.

1	Some courts have approved the dismissal of the case and the award of attorney's fees against the
2	EEOC for a failure to engage in a good faith conciliation. <u>E.g. EEOC v. Asplundh Tree Expert</u>
3	Co., 340 F.3d 1256, 1261 (11th Cir. 2003). However, it has also been held that courts have the
4	authority to stay judicial proceedings in order for the EEOC to make further conciliation efforts.
5	E.g. Brennan v. Ace Hardware Corp., 495 F.2d 368, 376 (8th Cir. 1974). The Court believes tha
6	additional briefing on the issue of whether the Court should stay the proceedings for further
7	conciliation efforts (if the Court later finds that the EEOC did not conciliate in good faith) ²
8	would be beneficial.
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10	Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:
11	1. On or by 4:00 p.m. July 13, 2010, the parties shall each file a brief on the issue of
12	whether the Court should stay the proceedings for further conciliation efforts if the Court
13	later finds that the EEOC did not conciliate in good faith; and
14	2. All other dates and deadlines remain unchanged.
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16	IT IS SO ORDERED.
17	Dated: July 3, 2010
18	CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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26	² The Court emphasizes that it has <u>not</u> determined that the EEOC breached the duty to conduct a good faith
27	conciliation. The Court merely wishes to hear the parties' respective positions on the possibility of a stay for further conciliation proceedings.
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