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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

PETER FUGAWA,

 Plaintiff,

 v.

DeARMOND,

 Defendant.

1:11-cv-00966-LJO-SKO (PC)

ORDER REQUIRING PARTIES TO NOTIFY COURT WHETHER A SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE WOULD BE BENEFICIAL

14-DAY DEADLINE

This action is scheduled for trial in front of the District Judge on January 22, 2019. However, given the age of this action and the Court’s ever burgeoning case load and the delays this causes, a court supervised settlement conference may be beneficial in this action. Accordingly, the Court **ORDERS** that within 14 days of the date of service of this order, the parties **SHALL** notify the Court whether they believe, in good faith, that a settlement conference is likely to be fruitful.

Notwithstanding the requirements of Local Rule 270(b), the settlement conference would be conducted by Magistrate Judge Oberto. The Court deems the deviation from the Local Rule to be appropriate and in the interests of the parties and justice and sound case management in this action. **If any party prefers that the settlement conference be conducted by a judicial officer who is not assigned to this case, that party is directed to notify the Court in the response to this order, that the party prefers another judicial officer to be assigned to handle the conference.**

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: October 19, 2018

/s/ Sheila K. Oberto
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE