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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

ALBERTO VILLESICAS,	)	Case No.: 1:12-cv-02068-SAB (PC)
Plaintiff,	)	<b>TRIAL SCHEDULING ORDER</b>
v.	)	<u>Telephonic Pretrial Confirmation Hearing:</u>
M.T. DOTSON, et al.,	)	March 10, 2017, at 9:30 a.m.
Defendants.	)	<u>Telephonic Motions in Limine Hearing:</u>
	)	April 7, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.
	)	<u>Jury Trial:</u> April 19, 2017, at 8:30 a.m. in Courtroom
	)	9 (SAB); 2-3 Days
	)	

Plaintiff Alberto Villescascas is appearing pro se and in forma pauperis in this civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(c), the parties have consented to the jurisdiction of the United States Magistrate Judge. ECF No. 34; Local Rule 302.

This action is proceeds against Defendants Dotson, Hernandez, Tucker, and Madrigal for retaliation in violation of the First Amendment. This matter was set for a telephonic hearing on October 19, 2016, for purposes of a pretrial confirmation hearing. The matter is now set for a 2 to 3 day jury trial beginning on **April 19, 2017, at 8:30 a.m.**

In preparation of trial, the parties are required to file Pretrial Statements in accordance with the schedule set forth herein. In addition to the matters already required to be addressed in the pretrial statement in accordance with Local Rule 281, Plaintiff will be required to make a particularized

1 showing in order to obtain the attendance of witnesses. The procedures and requirements for making  
2 such a showing are outlined in detail below.

3 **1. Pretrial Statement (Local Rule 281)**

4 Pursuant to Local Rule 281, the parties shall file a Pretrial Statement. Plaintiff shall file his  
5 Pretrial Statement no later than **February 17, 2017**. Defendants shall file their Pretrial Statement no  
6 later than **February 24, 2017**. The Telephonic Trial Confirmation hearing will be held **March 10,**  
7 **2017, at 9:30 a.m.** before the United States Magistrate Judge Stanley A. Boone in Courtroom 9.

8 The form and content of the Pretrial Statement must comply with Local Rule 281. Pursuant to  
9 Local Rule 281(b), the Pretrial Statement shall including the following matters, under the following  
10 captions, and in the following order:

11 **(1) Jurisdiction – Venue.** The factual and statutory basis of federal jurisdiction and venue  
12 and whether there is any dispute concerning jurisdiction or venue;

13 **(2) Jury – Non-Jury.** Whether the party has demanded a jury trial of all or any of the  
14 issues or, if not, whether a demand for jury trial made by any other party is conceded or contested;

15 **(3) Undisputed Facts.** A plain, concise statement of the facts that are undisputed;

16 **(4) Disputed Factual Issues.** A plain, concise statement of each fact (and any related  
17 essential facts) that the party claims or concedes to be in dispute;

18 **(5) Disputed Evidentiary Issues.** A plain, concise summary of any reasonably anticipated  
19 disputes concerning admissibility of live and deposition testimony, physical and demonstrative  
20 evidence and the use of special technology at trial, including computer animation, video discs, and  
21 other high technology, and a statement whether each such dispute should be resolved by motion in  
22 limine, briefed in the trial, brief, or addressed in some other manner;

23 **(6) Special Factual Information in Certain Actions.** In addition to the facts and issues  
24 described in (3) through (5), the following special information with respect to the following types of  
25 actions shall be specified within either the disputed or undisputed facts sections as appropriate:

26 **(A)** The date, place, and general nature of the incident; the particular acts,  
27 omissions, or conditions constituting the basis for liability; the particular acts, omissions or conditions  
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1 constituting the basis of any defense; any statute, ordinance, or regulation violated by either party; the  
2 applicability of the doctrine of strict liability or res ipsa loquitur.

3 (B) Each plaintiff's age; injuries sustained; any prior injury or condition worsened;  
4 periods of hospitalization; medical expenses and estimated future medical expenses; the period of total  
5 and/or partial disability; annual, monthly, or weekly earnings before the incident; earnings loss to date  
6 and estimated diminution of future earnings power; property damage; general damages; punitive  
7 damages;

8 (7) **Relief Sought.** The elements of monetary damage, if any, and the specific nature of any  
9 other relief sought;

10 (8) **Points of Law.** A statement of the legal theory or theories of recovery or of defense  
11 and of any points of law (substantive or procedural) that are or may reasonably be expected to be in  
12 controversy, citing the pertinent statutes, ordinances, regulations, cases, and other authorities relied  
13 upon. Extended legal argument is not required in the pretrial statement;

14 (9) **Abandoned Issues.** A statement of all issues raised by the pleadings that have been  
15 abandoned, including, for example, claims for relief and affirmative defenses;

16 (10) **Witnesses.** A list (names and addresses) of all prospective witnesses, whether offered  
17 in person or by deposition or interrogatory, designating those who are expert witnesses. Only  
18 witnesses so listed will be permitted to testify at the trial, except as may be otherwise provided in the  
19 pretrial order;

20 (11) **Exhibits – Schedules and Summaries.** A list of documents or other exhibits that the  
21 party expects to offer at trial. Only exhibits so listed will be permitted to be offered at trial except as  
22 may be otherwise provided in the pretrial order.

23 (12) **Discovery Documents.** A list of all portions of depositions, answers to interrogatories,  
24 and responses to requests for admission that the party expects to offer at trial;

25 (13) **Further Discovery or Motions.** Any requests for further discovery or pretrial  
26 motions. Whether discovery and/or law and motion has been terminated by a Court order, counsel  
27 shall set forth the grounds for relief from that order and why a motion to be relieved was not made  
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1 before the date ordered in the status conference for termination. Motions for relief at pretrial are not  
2 favored and will ordinarily be denied unless the moving party makes a strong showing;

3       **(14) Stipulations.** Any stipulations requested or offered for pretrial or trial purposes;

4       **(15) Amendments – Dismissals.** Any requested amendments to pleadings, dismissals,  
5 additions or subtractions of parties, or dispositions as to defaulting parties;

6       **(16) Settlement Negotiations.** A statement whether settlement negotiations between parties  
7 and/or a court settlement conference under L.R. 270 would be helpful;

8       **(17) Agreed Statements.** A statement whether presentation of all or part of the action upon  
9 an Agreed Statement of Facts is feasible and advisable;

10       **(18) Separate Trial of Issues.** A statement whether separate trial of any of the issues is  
11 feasible and advisable;

12       **(19) Impartial Experts – Limitation of Experts.** A statement whether appointment by the  
13 Court of impartial expert witnesses or limitation of the number of experts witnesses is advisable;

14       **(20) Attorneys’ Fees.** A statement whether attorney’s fees are sought and the time and  
15 manner in which they are to be ascertained. See L.R. 293;

16       **(21) Trial Exhibits.** Any special handling of trial exhibits and a statement of advisability of  
17 court retention of exhibits pending appeal decision. See L.R. 138(e);

18       **(22) Trial Protective Order.** Whether a trial protective order will be sought pursuant to  
19 L.R. 141.1(b)(2); and

20       **(23) Miscellaneous.** Any other appropriate comments, suggestions, or information that  
21 might aid in the disposition of the action, including references to any matters set forth in Fed. R. Civ.  
22 P. 16(c).

23       **A party’s failure to comply with any of these pretrial statement requirements may result**  
24 **in the Court’s excluding witnesses, evidence and/or legal issues related to the case at trial.**

25       **2. Disclosure of Expert Witness:**

26       If either party desires to include expert witnesses at trial, they must comply with the disclosure  
27 and timelines requirements set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(2)(2) and (a)(2)(D).

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**3. Plaintiff's Witness Procedures:**

Because the Plaintiff is an incarcerated state prisoner, the plaintiff must comply with certain procedures associated with introducing evidence and bringing witnesses to trial. **A failure to comply with these requirements will result in an exclusion of witnesses and/or trial evidence and will not be just cause for continuance of the trial date.**

Plaintiff must be prepared to introduce evidence to prove each of the alleged facts that support the claims raised in the lawsuit. In general, there are two kinds of trial evidence: (1) exhibits and (2) the testimony of witnesses. It is Plaintiff's responsibility to produce all of the evidence to prove his case, whether that evidence is in the form of exhibits or witness testimony. If Plaintiff wants to call witnesses to testify, he must follow certain procedures to ensure that the witnesses will be at the trial and available to testify. Plaintiff is advised that failure to comply with the procedures set forth below may result in the preclusion of any and all witnesses named in his pretrial statement. Notwithstanding the requirements set forth herein, a motion for the attendance of incarcerated witnesses will only be granted by the Court if the moving party has shown the witnesses have relevant information and the Court determines the witnesses' presence will substantially further the resolution of the case. Wiggins v. Cnty. Of Alameda, 717 F.2d 466, 468 n.1 (9th Cir. 1983). The decision to grant or deny the motion is within the discretion of the trial judge.

The following procedures are required to ensure the attendance of Plaintiff's witnesses at trial. The witnesses may be incarcerated or unincarcerated and willing or unwilling to testify voluntarily. Plaintiff should carefully review the procedures set forth below for filing motions based on the different circumstances of each individual witness.

**a. Procedures for Obtaining Attendance of *Incarcerated Witnesses Who Agree to Testify Voluntarily***

An incarcerated witness who agrees voluntarily to attend trial to give testimony cannot come to court unless the Court orders the warden or other custodian to permit the witness to be transported to court. The Court will not issue such an order unless it is satisfied that the prospective witness has actual knowledge of relevant facts.

1 A party intending to introduce the testimony of incarcerated witnesses who have agreed  
2 voluntarily to attend the trial must serve and file a written motion for a court order requiring that such  
3 witnesses be brought to court at the time of trial. The motion must: (1) state the name, address, and  
4 prison identification number of each such witness; and (2) be accompanied by declarations showing  
5 that each witness is willing to testify and that each witness has actual knowledge of relevant facts.  
6 The motion should be entitled “Motion for Attendance of Incarcerated Witnesses.”

7 The willingness of the prospective witness can be shown in one of two ways: (1) the party  
8 himself can swear by declaration under penalty of perjury that the prospective witness has informed  
9 the party that he or she is willing to testify voluntarily without being subpoenaed, in which declaration  
10 the party must state when and where the prospective witness informed the party of this willingness; or  
11 (2) the party can serve and file a declaration, signed under penalty of perjury by the prospective  
12 witness, in which the witness states that he or she is willing to testify without being subpoenaed.

13 The prospective witness’s actual knowledge of relevant facts can be shown in one of two ways:  
14 (1) if the party has actual firsthand knowledge that the prospective witness was an eyewitness or an  
15 ear-witness to the relevant facts (e.g., if an incident occurred in Plaintiff’s cell and, at the time,  
16 Plaintiff saw that a cellmate was present and observed the incident, Plaintiff may swear to the  
17 cellmate’s ability to testify), the party himself can swear by declaration under penalty of perjury that  
18 the prospective witness has actual knowledge; or (2) the party can serve and file a declaration signed  
19 under penalty of perjury by the prospective witness in which the witness describes the relevant facts to  
20 which the prospective witness was an eye or ear witness. Whether the declaration is made by the party  
21 or by the prospective witness, it must be specific about the incident, when and where it occurred, who  
22 was present, and how the prospective witness happened to be in a position to see or to hear what  
23 occurred at the time it occurred.

24 The Court will review and rule on the motion for attendance of incarcerated witnesses,  
25 specifying which prospective witnesses must be brought to court. Subsequently, the Court will issue  
26 the order necessary to cause the witness’s custodian to bring the witness to court.

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1           **Plaintiff shall file any motions for the attendance of incarcerated witnesses who are**  
2 **willing to testify, on or before December 28, 2016. Oppositions, if any, must be filed on or before**  
3 **January 11, 2017.**

4           **b.       Procedures for Obtaining Attendance of *Incarcerated Witnesses Who Refuse to***  
5 **Testify Voluntarily**

6           If a party seeks to obtain the attendance of incarcerated witnesses who refuse to testify  
7 voluntarily, the party must submit a motion for the attendance of such witnesses. An incarcerated  
8 witness cannot come to court unless the Court orders the warden or other custodian to permit the  
9 witness to be transported to court. The Court will not issue an order unless it is satisfied that the  
10 prospective witness has actual knowledge of relevant facts. In addition, the party must indicate in the  
11 motion that the incarcerated witnesses are not willing to testify voluntarily.

12           The motion must: (1) state the name, address, and prison identification number of each such  
13 witness; and (2) be accompanied by a showing that each witness has actual knowledge of relevant  
14 facts. The motion should be entitled “Motion for Attendance of Incarcerated Witnesses.”

15           The prospective witness’s actual knowledge of relevant facts can be shown in one of two ways:  
16 (1) if the party has actual firsthand knowledge that the prospective witness was an eyewitness or an  
17 ear-witness to the relevant facts (e.g., if an incident occurred in Plaintiff’s cell and, at the time,  
18 Plaintiff saw that a cellmate was present and observed the incident, Plaintiff may swear to the  
19 cellmate’s ability to testify), the party himself can swear by declaration under penalty of perjury that  
20 the prospective witness has actual knowledge; or (2) the party can serve and file a declaration signed  
21 under penalty of perjury by the prospective witness in which the witness describes the relevant facts to  
22 which the prospective witness was an eye or ear witness. Whether the declaration is made by the party  
23 or by the prospective witness, it must be specific about the incident, when and where it occurred, who  
24 was present, and how the prospective witness happened to be in a position to see or to hear what  
25 occurred at the time it occurred.

26           The Court will review and rule on the motion for attendance of incarcerated witnesses,  
27 specifying which prospective witnesses must be brought to court. Subsequently, the Court will issue  
28 the order necessary to cause the witness’s custodian to bring the witness to court.

1           **Plaintiff shall file any motions for the attendance of incarcerated witnesses who are**  
2 **willing to testify, on or before December 28, 2016. Oppositions, if any, must be filed on or before**  
3 **January 11, 2017.**

4           **c.       Procedures for Obtaining Attendance of *Unincarcerated Witnesses Who Agree to***  
5 **Testify Voluntarily**

6           It is the responsibility of the party who has secured an unincarcerated witness's voluntary  
7 attendance to notify the witness of the time and date of trial. No action need be sought or obtained  
8 from the Court. However, the parties are advised that if a witness subsequently refuses to testify prior  
9 to trial, the Court will not continue the trial date to allow the party to compel the attendance of the  
10 witness at trial, absent a showing of extraordinary circumstances.

11           **d.       Procedures for Obtaining Attendance of *Unincarcerated Witnesses Who Refuse to***  
12 **Testify Voluntarily**

13           If a prospective witness is not incarcerated, and he or she refuses to testify voluntarily, the  
14 witness must be served with a subpoena.<sup>1</sup> Fed. R. Civ. P. 45. In addition, the party seeking the  
15 witness's presence must tender an appropriate sum of money for the witness. *Id.* In the case of an  
16 unincarcerated witness, the appropriate sum of money is the daily witness fee of \$40.00 plus the  
17 witness's travel expenses. 28 U.S.C. § 1821.

18           If Plaintiff wishes to obtain the attendance of one or more unincarcerated witnesses who refuse  
19 to testify voluntarily, Plaintiff must first notify the Court in writing of the name and location of each  
20 unincarcerated witness. The Court will calculate the travel expense for each unincarcerated witness  
21 and notify Plaintiff of the amount(s). Plaintiff must then, for each witness, submit a money order  
22 made payable to the witness for the full amount of the witness's travel expenses plus the daily witness  
23 fee of \$40.00. The subpoena will not be served upon the unincarcerated witness by the United States  
24 Marshal unless the money order is tendered to the Court. Because no statute authorizes the use of  
25 public funds for these expenses in civil cases, the tendering of witness fees and travel expenses is

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26 <sup>1</sup> This section does not apply to individuals who are Defendants in this action, as Defendants are directed to be present at  
27 all times during the trial unless ordered by the court or upon stipulation. However, the parties are still required to list a  
28 party as a witness in their pretrial statement. A failure to list a party witness may foreclose that party from calling them as  
a witness in their case in chief.



1 required even if the party was granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis.

2 **If Plaintiff wishes to have the United States Marshal serve any unincarcerated witnesses**  
3 **who refuse to testify voluntarily, Plaintiff must submit the money orders to the Court no later**  
4 **than February 8, 2017. In order to ensure timely submission of the money orders, Plaintiff must**  
5 **notify the Court of the names and locations of his witnesses, on or before January 18, 2017.**

6 **4. Motions In Limine Hearing and Briefing Schedule**

7 Any party may file a motion in limine, which is a procedural mechanism to limit in advance  
8 testimony or evidence in a particular area. United States v. Heller, 551 F.3d 1108, 1111 (9th Cir.  
9 2009). In the case of a jury trial, the Court's ruling gives Plaintiff and Defendants' counsel advance  
10 notice of the scope of certain evidence so that admissibility is settled before attempted use of the  
11 evidence before the jury. Id. at 1111-1112. Although the Federal Rules do not explicitly provide for  
12 the filing of motions in limine, the Court has the inherent power to hear and decide such motions as a  
13 function of its duty to expeditiously manage trials by eliminating evidence that is clearly inadmissible  
14 for any purpose. Luce v. United States, 469 U.S. 38, 41 n.4 (1984).

15 This Court further orders the parties to file motions in limine only with respect to important,  
16 critical issues. Motions in limine on abstract evidentiary issues or issues more appropriately addressed  
17 by the Court on a case-by-case basis (such as a motion in limine to exclude all irrelevant evidence)  
18 will be looked upon with disfavor. After satisfying the forgoing, if a motion in limine still seeks to  
19 address the admissibility of a particular trial exhibit, the exhibit in question must be referenced by the  
20 trial exhibit number so that the court can review the actual exhibit for admissibility. If the exhibit  
21 sought to be admitted would not be in the court's possession one week prior to the motion in limine  
22 hearing, then the exhibit in question must be included in the motion. Failure to properly reference or  
23 attach an exhibit in the motion will result in the request being denied.

24 The parties shall not file separate motions in limine for every issue presented to the Court.  
25 Rather, if a party wishes to file a motion in limine, each party shall file one consolidated motion in  
26 limine which is subdivided into separate sections for each issue setting for the legal authority and  
27 analysis. The responding party shall file one opposition in response addressing each motion in limine  
28 issue in a separate section.

1 The deadline for service and filing of motions in limine is **March 17, 2017**. The deadline for  
2 service and filing of an opposition, if any, is **March 31, 2017**. A telephonic motions in limine hearing  
3 will be held on **April 7, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.**, in Courtroom 9, before the undersigned. Counsel for  
4 defendants is directed to arrange for telephone contact with Plaintiff and to contact the Courtroom  
5 Deputy, Mamie Hernandez, at (559) 499-5672, prior to the hearing date, to receive instructions  
6 regarding the conference call.

7 **5. Pre-Marked and Exchange of Exhibits**

8 As noted below, no later than **March 7, 2017**, the parties shall exchange their final exhibit list  
9 and pre-marked exhibits, to be addressed at the **April 7, 2017**, motion in limine hearing.

10 All exhibits must be pre-marked with an exhibit sticker or other legible numbering/lettering.  
11 This requirement that exhibits be pre-marked applies both to evidence that will be formally admitted  
12 into evidence as well as any other exhibits that will be presented in any manner during trial, such as  
13 “demonstrative” evidence. Each individual “original” exhibit that will be submitted to the jury must  
14 be stapled/fastened so that the exhibit does not become separated. Further, exhibits submitted to the  
15 jury must be pre-marked on the front page only in the manner described above. Impeachment or  
16 rebuttal evidence need not be pre-marked. However, evidence of bias, extrinsically introduced, must  
17 be pre-marked.

- 18 a. **Joint Exhibits:** Joint exhibits are those exhibits which all parties agree may be  
19 admitted into evidence without the need for laying a proper foundation under  
20 the Federal Rules of Evidence. Joint exhibits must be pre-marked with the  
21 designation “J-[Number]” (e.g., J-1, J-2). Those exhibits may be introduced at  
22 any time during the course of the trial. However, joint exhibits are not  
23 “automatically” admitted into evidence: at least one of the parties must admit a  
24 joint exhibit into evidence. If an exhibit is not admitted by any party, the  
25 exhibit will not be given to the jury despite its “joint” designation as an exhibit.
- 26 b. **Plaintiff’s Exhibits:** Plaintiff’s exhibits must be pre-marked using **numbers**  
27 beginning with 1 (e.g., 1, 2, etc.).
- 28 c. **Defendant’s Exhibits:** Defendant’s exhibits must be pre-marked using **letters**

1 beginning with A (e.g., A, B, C...AA, BB, CC...AAA, BBB, CCC, etc.).

2 No later than **March 7, 2017**, the parties shall exchange their proposed exhibits to allow for the  
3 parties to file objections to be addressed at the motion in limine hearing on **April 7, 2017**. Further  
4 instructions on the submission and use of exhibits during trial will be provided in the pretrial order in  
5 this matter, to be filed after the pretrial hearing noted above.

6 Defendants are required to submit trial exhibits for both parties in binders. Counsel shall  
7 submit three **(3) complete, legible and identical sets of exhibits in binders** on or about **April 11,**  
8 **2017**. Within the binders, the pre-marked exhibits must be separately tabbed and assembled in  
9 sequential order. All of Plaintiff's exhibits shall be marked sequentially beginning with 1 (e.g., 1, 2,  
10 etc.). All of Defendants' exhibits shall be marked sequentially beginning with A (e.g., A, B, C...AA,  
11 BB, CC...AAA, BBB, CCC, etc.). The binders shall be delivered to Courtroom Deputy Clerk Mamie  
12 Hernandez prior to trial at a date set forth in the pretrial order.

### 13 CONCLUSION AND ORDER

14 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

15 1. This matter is set for telephonic pretrial confirmation hearing before the Honorable  
16 Stanley A. Boone on **March 10, 2017, at 9:30 a.m.** in Courtroom 9;

17 2. Motions in limine are due on or before **March 17, 2017**. Oppositions to the motions in  
18 limine are due on or before **March 31, 2017**. This matter is set for motion in limine hearing before the  
19 Honorable Stanley A. Boone on **April 7, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.**, in Courtroom 9;

20 3. This matter is set for jury trial before the Honorable Stanley A. Boone on **April 19,**  
21 **2017, at 8:30 a.m.** in Courtroom 9;

22 4. Counsel for Defendants is required to arrange for the participation of Plaintiff in the  
23 telephonic trial confirmation hearing and motion in limine hearing and to contact Courtroom Deputy,  
24 Mamie Hernandez, at (559) 499-5672, prior to the hearing date, to receive instructions regarding the  
25 conference call;

26 5. Plaintiff shall serve and file a pretrial statement as described in this order on or before  
27 **February 17, 2017**;

28 6. Defendants shall serve and file a pretrial statement as described in this order on or

1 before **February 24, 2017**.

2 7. In addition to electronically filing their pretrial statement, Defendants shall e-mail the  
3 pretrial statement to: **saborders@caed.uscourts.gov**;

4 8. If Plaintiff intends to call incarcerated witnesses at time of trial, Plaintiff shall serve and  
5 file a motion for attendance of incarcerated witnesses as described in this order on or before  
6 **December 28, 2016**;

7 9. The opposition to the motion for the attendance of incarcerated witnesses, if any, shall  
8 be filed on or before **January 11, 2017**; and

9 10. If Plaintiff wishes to obtain the attendance of unincarcerated witnesses who refuse to  
10 testify voluntarily, Plaintiff must notify the Court of their names and locations on or before **January**  
11 **18, 2017**, and Plaintiff must submit the money orders, as described in subsection 4 of this order, to the  
12 Court on or before **February 8, 2017**.

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15 IT IS SO ORDERED.

16 Dated: **October 19, 2016**



UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE