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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ARTHUR DUANE JACKSON, et al.,
Plaintiffs,
v.
STATE OF CALIFORNIA, et al.,
Defendants.

Case No. 1:13-cv-01055-LJO-SAB
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE RE
CONSOLIDATION FOR ALL PRETRIAL
PURPOSES OF RELATED CASES

COREY LAMAR SMITH, et al.,
Plaintiffs,
v.
ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, et al.,
Defendants.

Case No. 1:14-cv-00060-SAB-LJO
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE RE
CONSOLIDATION FOR ALL PRETRIAL
PURPOSES OF RELATED CASES

FREDERICK BEAGLE, et al.,
Plaintiffs,
v.
ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, et al.,
Defendants.

Case No. 1:14-cv-00430- LJO-SAB
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE RE
CONSOLIDATION FOR ALL PRETRIAL
PURPOSES OF RELATED CASES

On July 9, 2013, a class action was filed in Jackson v. State of California, No. 1:13-cv-

1 01055-LJO-SAB (E.D. Cal.). On January 28, 2014, an order issued finding that Jackson was
2 related to Smith v. Schwarzenegger, No. 1:14-cv-00060-LJO-SAB (E.D. Cal.), another class
3 action filed based upon the same facts. On March 27, 2014, an order issued finding that a similar
4 class action, Beagle v. Schwarzenegger, No. 1:14-cv-00430-LJO-SAB (E.D. Cal.), was also a
5 related case.

6 The Court has reviewed these three cases and finds that they are not just related, but are
7 based upon the same alleged violations and contain substantially identical legal theories. All
8 three class actions allege that individuals with an increased susceptibility to Valley Fever were
9 housed at prisons in the endemic area and contracted the disease.

10 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 42 provides that “[i]f actions before the court involve a
11 common question of law or fact, the court may . . . consolidate the actions. . . .” Fed. R. Civ. P.
12 42 (a)(2). “The district court has broad discretion under this rule to consolidate cases pending in
13 the same district.” Investors Research Co. V. U.S. Dist. Court for Cent. Dist. of California, 877
14 F.2d 777 (9th Cir. 1989).

15 The purpose of consolidation is to avoid unnecessary cost or delay where the claims and
16 issues contain common aspects of law or fact. E.E.O.C. v. HBE Corp., 135 F.3d 543, 551 (8th
17 Cir. 1998). However, consolidation is not meant to “merge the suits into a single cause, [] change
18 the rights of the parties, or make those who are parties in one suit parties in another.” Johnson v.
19 Manhattan Ry. Co., 289 U.S. 479, 496-97 (1933), 289 U.S. 479, 496-97 (1933); see also J.G.
20 Link & Co. v. Continental Cas. Co., 470 F.2d 1133, 1138 (9th Cir. 1972) (“the law is clear that an
21 act of consolidation does not affect any of the substantive rights of the parties”). In determining
22 whether to consolidate cases, “a court weighs the interest of judicial convenience against the
23 potential for delay, confusion and prejudice caused by consolidation.” Southwest Marine, Inc. v.
24 Triple A Mach. Shop, Inc., 720 F.Supp. 805, 807 (N.D. Cal. 1989).

25 Based on the foregoing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 26 1. On or before May 21, 2014, the parties are to show cause in writing why the above
27 captioned actions should not be consolidated for all pretrial purposes, including
28 but not limited to: scheduling, discovery, and dispositive motions practice;

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- 2. The parties may file an opposition to the opposing parties response on or before May 28, 2014; and
- 3. If the Court finds that a hearing on the matter is necessary, such hearing shall be set at a later date.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: May 7, 2014


UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE