UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

GEORGE MCCLURE,

Plaintiff,

v.

ORDER SETTING SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

C. K. CHEN, et al.,

Defendants.

George McClure ("Plaintiff") is a state prisoner proceeding *pro se* and *in forma pauperis* with this civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1983. The Court has determined that this case will benefit from a settlement conference. Therefore, this case will be referred to Magistrate Judge Stanley A. Boone for the court's Settlement Week program to conduct a settlement conference at the U. S. District Court, 2500 Tulare Street, Fresno, California 93721 in Courtroom #9 on June 7, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. The Court will issue the necessary transportation order in due course.

In accordance with the above, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

 This case is set for a settlement conference before Magistrate Judge Stanley A. Boone on June 7, 2019, at 9:30 a.m. at the U. S. District Court, 2500 Tulare Street, Fresno, California 93721 in Courtroom #9.

- 2. A representative with full and unlimited authority to negotiate and enter into a binding settlement on the defendant's behalf shall attend in person.¹
- 3. Those in attendance must be prepared to discuss the claims, defenses and damages.
 The failure of any counsel, party or authorized person subject to this order to appear in person may result in the imposition of sanctions. In addition, the conference will not proceed and will be reset to another date.
- 4. Each party shall provide a confidential settlement statement no later than May 31, 2019 to the following email address: saborders@caed.uscourts.gov. Plaintiff shall mail his confidential settlement statement Attn: Magistrate Judge Stanley A. Boone, USDC CAED, 2500 Tulare Street, Fresno, California 93721 so it arrives no later than May 31, 2019. The envelope shall be marked "Confidential Settlement Statement". Parties shall also file a "Notice of Submission of Confidential Settlement Statement" (See Local Rule 270(d)).

Settlement statements **should not be filed** with the Clerk of the Court **nor served on any other party**. Settlement statements shall be clearly marked "confidential" with the date and time of the settlement conference indicated prominently thereon.

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¹ While the exercise of its authority is subject to abuse of discretion review, "the district court has the authority to order parties, including the federal government, to participate in mandatory settlement conferences....." <u>United States v. United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands</u>, 694 F.3d 1051, 1053, 1057, 1059 (9th Cir. 2012)("the district court has broad authority to compel participation in mandatory settlement conference[s]."). The term "full authority to settle" means that the individuals attending the mediation conference must be authorized to fully explore settlement options and to agree at that time to any settlement terms acceptable to the parties. <u>G. Heileman Brewing Co., Inc. v. Joseph Oat Corp.</u>, 871 F.2d 648, 653 (7th Cir. 1989), <u>cited with approval in Official Airline Guides, Inc. v. Goss</u>, 6 F.3d 1385, 1396 (9th Cir. 1993). The individual with full authority to settle must also have "unfettered discretion and authority" to change the settlement position of the party, if appropriate. <u>Pitman v. Brinker Int'l., Inc.</u>, 216 F.R.D. 481, 485-86 (D. Ariz. 2003), <u>amended on recon. in part</u>, <u>Pitman v. Brinker Int'l., Inc.</u>, 2003 WL 23353478 (D. Ariz. 2003). The purpose behind requiring the attendance of a person with full settlement authority is that the parties' view of the case may be altered during the face to face conference. <u>Pitman</u>, 216 F.R.D. at 486. An authorization to settle for a limited dollar amount or sum certain can be found not to comply with the requirement of full authority to settle. <u>Nick v. Morgan's Foods, Inc.</u>, 270 F.3d 590, 596-97 (8th Cir. 2001).