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2 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

3 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

4
5 MICHEAL GONZALES,

6 Plaintiff,

7 v.

8 PODSAKOFF, et al.,

9 Defendants.

1:15-cv-00924-DAD-SKO (PC)

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

14-DAY DEADLINE

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11 Given the age of this action and the Court’s ever burgeoning case load and the delays this
12 causes, a court supervised settlement conference may be beneficial in this action. Accordingly,
13 the Court **ORDERS** that within 14 days of the date of service of this order, the parties **SHALL**
14 notify the Court whether they believe, in good faith, that a settlement conference is likely to be
15 fruitful.

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

23 IT IS SO ORDERED.

24 Dated: October 19, 2018

25 /s/ Sheila K. Oberto
26 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE