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

MARK HODGE,

 Plaintiff,

 v.

J. GONZALES, et al.,

 Defendants.

Case No.: 1:15-cv-01618-AWI-BAM (PC)

**ORDER SETTING SETTLEMENT
CONFERENCE**

Date: September 18, 2017
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Place: California State Prison, Corcoran
4001 King Avenue, Corcoran, CA 93212

Plaintiff Mark Hodge is appearing pro se and in forma pauperis in 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 to conduct a settlement conference at the California State Prison, Corcoran (CSP-COR), 4001 King Avenue, Corcoran, CA 93212 on September 18, 2017, at 8:30 a.m. The Court will issue the necessary transportation order in due course.

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

1. This case is set for a settlement conference before Magistrate Judge Stanley A. Boone on September 18, 2017, at CSP-COR.

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- 1 2. A representative with full and unlimited authority to negotiate and enter into a binding
2 settlement shall attend in person.¹
- 3 3. Those in attendance must be prepared to discuss the claims, defenses and damages. The
4 failure of any counsel, party or authorized person subject to this order to appear in person
5 may result in the imposition of sanctions. In addition, the conference will not proceed and
6 will be reset to another date.
- 7 4. Defendants shall provide a confidential settlement statement to the following email
8 address: **saborders@caed.uscourts.gov**. Plaintiff shall mail his confidential settlement
9 statement to U.S. District Court, 2500 Tulare Street, Fresno, California, 93721,
10 **“Attention: Magistrate Judge Stanley A. Boone.”** The envelope shall be marked
11 “Confidential Settlement Statement”. Settlement statements shall arrive no later than
12 September 11, 2017. Parties shall also file a Notice of Submission of Confidential
13 Settlement Statement (See Local Rule 270(d)). Settlement statements **should not be filed**
14 with the Clerk of the Court **nor served on any other party**. Settlement statements shall be
15 clearly marked “confidential” with the date and time of the settlement conference indicated
16 prominently thereon.
- 17 5. The confidential settlement statement shall be **no longer than five pages** in length, typed
18 or neatly printed, and include the following:

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21 ¹ While the exercise of its authority is subject to abuse of discretion review, “the district court has the authority
22 to order parties, including the federal government, to participate in mandatory settlement conferences”
23 United States v. United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, 694 F.3d 1051, 1053, 1057, 1059
24 (9th Cir. 2012)(“the district court has broad authority to compel participation in mandatory settlement
25 conference[s].”). The term “full authority to settle” means that the individuals attending the mediation
26 conference must be authorized to fully explore settlement options and to agree at that time to any settlement
27 terms acceptable to the parties. G. Heileman Brewing Co., Inc. v. Joseph Oat Corp., 871 F.2d 648, 653 (7th Cir.
28 1989), cited with approval in Official Airline Guides, Inc. v. Goss, 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. Pitman v. Brinker Int’l, Inc., 216 F.R.D. 481, 485-86 (D. Ariz.
2003), amended on recon. in part, Pitman v. Brinker Int’l, Inc., 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. Pitman, 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. Nick v. Morgan’s Foods, Inc., 270 F.3d 590, 596-97 (8th Cir. 2001).

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- a. A brief statement of the facts of the case.
- b. A brief statement of the claims and defenses, i.e., statutory or other grounds upon which the claims are founded; a forthright evaluation of the parties' likelihood of prevailing on the claims and defenses; and a description of the major issues in dispute.
- c. An estimate of the cost and time to be expended for further discovery, pretrial, and trial.
- d. The party's position on settlement, including present demands and offers and a history of past settlement discussions, offers, and demands.
- e. A brief statement of each party's expectations and goals for the settlement conference, including how much a party is willing to accept and/or willing to pay.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: July 6, 2017

/s/ Barbara A. McAuliffe
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE