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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

RAUL ALVAREZ,  
  
Plaintiffs,  
  
v.  
  
DR. NASTRAN HASHEMI,  
  
Defendant.

**1:16-cv-00203-AWI-JLT (PC)**  
**ORDER REQUIRING PARTIES TO**  
**NOTIFY COURT WHETHER A**  
**SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE**  
**WOULD BE BENEFICIAL**

**14-DAY DEADLINE**

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

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1 Notwithstanding the requirements of Local Rule 270(b), the settlement conference would  
2 be conducted by Magistrate Judge Thurston. The Court deems the deviation from the Local Rule  
3 to be appropriate and in the interests of the parties and justice and sound case management in this  
4 action. **If any party prefers that the settlement conference be conducted by a judicial officer**  
5 **who is not assigned to this case, that party is directed to notify the Court in the response to**  
6 **this order, that the party prefers another judicial officer to be assigned to handle the**  
7 **conference.**

8 IT IS SO ORDERED.

9 Dated: October 18, 2018

10 /s/ Jennifer L. Thurston  
11 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE