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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

RANDY LANGLEY,  
Plaintiff,  
v.  
E. GARCIA; G. COOK,  
Defendants.

Case No. 1:16-cv-01299-NONE-JLT (PC)

**ORDER DIRECTING PARTIES TO  
NOTIFY COURT WHETHER THEY  
CONSENT TO MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
JURISDICTION**

21-DAY DEADLINE

This matter is ready to proceed to trial. However, per the standing order issued by District Judge Dale A. Drozd on February 3, 2020, no new trial dates are being scheduled in civil cases assigned to “DAD” or “NONE” in light of the judicial emergency in the Eastern District of California. (Doc. 48-1 at 4.) Therefore, scheduling orders in civil cases assigned to “DAD” or “NONE” will not include a trial date; the trial confirmation hearing will be the last date to be scheduled. (*See id.*)

One alternative is for the parties to consent to a United States Magistrate Judge conducting all proceedings, including trial and entry of final judgment, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. section 636(c), Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 73, and Local Rule 305. The Magistrate Judges of the Eastern District, all experienced former trial lawyers, use the same jury pool and the same court facilities as United States District Judges. Judgments entered by a United States Magistrate Judge are appealable directly to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Because

1 Magistrate Judges do not conduct felony trials, they have greater flexibility and schedule firm  
2 trial dates. While there are clear scheduling benefits to consenting to Magistrate Judge  
3 jurisdiction, substantive rulings and decisions will not be affected by whether a party chooses to  
4 consent or not.

5 **Within 21 days** from the date of service of this order, the Court **DIRECTS** the parties to  
6 notify the Court whether they consent to or decline Magistrate Judge jurisdiction by filling out the  
7 attached form and returning it to the Court. The Court **DIRECTS** the Clerk's Office to attach a  
8 consent/decline form to this order. The parties are reminded of their right to consent or decline  
9 without any risk of substantive repercussions.

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11 IT IS SO ORDERED.

12 Dated: **September 7, 2020**

**/s/ Jennifer L. Thurston**  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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