



1 and speaking with plaintiff, and after conferring with defense counsel’s supervisor, counsel finds in  
2 good faith that a settlement conference would be a waste of resources<sup>2</sup>, defense counsel may move to  
3 opt out of this pilot project.

4 **Within 35 days**, the assigned Deputy Attorney General **SHALL** contact the Courtroom  
5 Deputy Clerk at SHall@caed.uscourts.gov, to schedule the settlement conference. If the settlement  
6 conference cannot be set quickly due to the court’s calendar, the parties may seek an extension of the  
7 initial 90-day stay.

8 Based upon the foregoing, the Court **ORDERS**:

9 1. **This action is STAYED for 90 days** to allow the parties an opportunity to settle their  
10 dispute before a responsive pleading is filed, or the discovery process begins. No other pleadings or  
11 other documents may be filed in this case during the stay. The parties **SHALL NOT** engage in formal  
12 discovery, but they may jointly agree to engage in informal discovery.

13 2. **Within 30 days from the date of this order**, the parties **SHALL** file the attached  
14 notice, indicating their agreement to proceed to an early settlement conference or whether they believe  
15 settlement is not achievable at this time.

16 3. **Within 35 days from the date of this order**, the assigned Deputy Attorney General  
17 **SHALL** contact this court’s Courtroom Deputy Clerk at SHall@caed.uscourts.gov, to schedule the  
18 settlement conference;

19 4. If the parties settle their case during the stay of this action, they **SHALL** file a Notice  
20 of Settlement as required by Local Rule 160;

21 5. The Clerk of the Court **SHALL** serve via email, copies of: a. plaintiff’s Third  
22 Amended Complaint (Doc. 17), b. the screening order (Doc. 18), and c. this order to Supervising  
23 Deputy Attorney General Christopher Becker, and copy of this order to ADR Coordinator Sujean  
24 Park;

25 6. **The parties are reminded of their obligation to keep the court informed of any changes**  
26 **of addresses during the stay and while the action is pending.** Changes of address must be reported

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28 <sup>2</sup> By way of guidance, if the defense intends to file an exhaustion motion and believes in good faith that it has a significant chance of success, this would be a likely circumstance where the opt-out provision should be employed.

1 promptly in a separate document entitled "Notice of Change of Address." *See* L.R. 182(f).

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3 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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Dated: March 22, 2019

/s/ Jennifer L. Thurston  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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

ROBERT C. WILLIAMS,  
  
Plaintiff,  
  
v.  
  
CASANOVA, et al.,  
  
Defendants.

Case No.: 1:17-cv-00917-JLT (PC)  
  
NOTICE REGARDING EARLY SETTLEMENT  
CONFERENCE

As required by the Court's order:

1. The party or counsel for the party signing below, agrees that there is a good chance that an early settlement conference will resolve this action and wishes to engage in an early settlement conference.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

2. The party or counsel for the party signing below, agrees the assigned Magistrate Judge may conduct the settlement conference.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

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3. The plaintiff will be permitted to participate in the settlement conference by teleconference only.

Dated:

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Plaintiff or Counsel for Defendants