

1 the SACD available in the law library for inmate review, (2) some of the notices that were posted
2 in the Jail pertained to the amended consent decree (“ACD”), not the SACD, and noted a
3 comment due date of December 30, 2018, and (3) the notice is misleading because it gives short
4 shrift to the changes from the ACD to the SACD, notably the omission of many of the ACD’s
5 provisions, including requirements that the Jail take steps to enhance inmate recreation
6 opportunities, increase medical staff, and accommodate disabled inmates. She asks that the
7 comment period be extended so that these issues can be remedied, and also asks the Jail to make
8 the ACD available in the law library along with the SACD so class members can compare the two
9 documents. Ms. Abbott also objects to the SACD substantively, arguing that it should keep all
10 the provisions of the ACD that have been omitted through agreement by the parties’ lawyers.

11 According to plaintiffs’ counsel, defendants do not agree that Abbott should be allowed to
12 appear at the hearing, but they have no objection to the court considering her letter. The court
13 will consider Ms. Abbott’s objections as stated in her letter. However, it does not appear to the
14 court that oral testimony or argument from Ms. Abbott would materially assist the court in
15 resolving the objection. If, at the time of the hearing, the court has any questions for Ms. Abbott
16 they will be addressed then. Accordingly, plaintiffs’ request that Abbott be permitted to attend
17 the hearing is granted. She may do so by telephone using the teleconference line provided below,
18 or plaintiffs’ counsel may make other arrangements with the Jail to secure her attendance.

19 Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that:

- 20 1. Plaintiffs’ request that class member Mary Abbott be permitted to appear at the
21 hearing scheduled for May 17, 2023 regarding final approval of the SACD (ECF No.
22 278) is GRANTED in part such that Ms. Abbott may attend the hearing. Ms. Abbot
23 may listen in on the hearing using the teleconference line (888) 557-8511, access code
24 1273468#, or plaintiffs’ counsel can seek different arrangements with the Jail to secure
25 her attendance.

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2. Plaintiffs' request that Mary Abbott be permitted to voice her objections orally at the hearing (ECF No. 278) is DENIED without prejudice.

Dated: May 10, 2023.


EDMUND F. BRENNAN
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE