

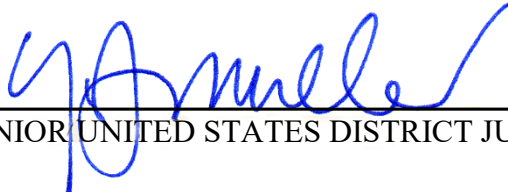
1 powers are governed by the December 13, 1995 Order of Reference, ECF No. 640. As
2 particularly relevant here, paragraphs B2 and B5 of that order provide, respectively, that the
3 Special Master has the power to “engage in informal conferences with CDC[R] staff employees
4 and appointees and such persons shall cooperate with the special master and respond to inquiries
5 and requests related to the performance of his duties, including requests for the compilation or
6 communication or oral or written information” and “[t]o have unlimited access to the records,
7 files and papers maintained by defendants to the extent that such access is related to the
8 performance of the special master’s duties under this Order of Reference. Such access shall
9 include all departmental, institutional, and inmate records, including but not limited to, central
10 files, medical records, and mental health records. The special master may obtain copies of all
11 such relevant records, files, and papers.” ECF No. 640 at 5-6.

12 Defendants shall forthwith ensure that all institution staff who interact with the Special
13 Master or any member of his team understand the relevant provisions of the Order of Reference
14 and that those provisions guide the Special Master’s authority to receive information from all
15 CDCR staff and employees.

16 Going forward, defendants shall lodge on the docket any response to the Special Master’s
17 request for documents that questions or expresses reservations concerning the Special Master’s
18 request. Defendants shall err on the side of caution and alert the court to any communication that
19 will result in a delay in complying with the Special Master’s requests. The Special Master shall
20 inform the court promptly if he believes there is unnecessary delay or resistance from defendants
21 without notice to the court. The court may determine itself or in its discretion refer such matters
22 to the assigned magistrate judge to determine whether the defendants’ response is consistent with
23 the order of reference.

24 IT IS SO ORDERED.

25 DATED: November 25, 2024.



SENIOR UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE