American Home Shield Long Term Disability Plan, 180 F.3d 1065, 1071 (9th Cir. 1999). Rule

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706(a) does not authorize the district court to provide a plaintiff with funds for an expert witness or to appoint such a witness on a plaintiff's behalf; rather, it permits the appointment of an expert to aid the court. Depending on the circumstances, the court can assess the cost of the expert witness as it sees fit. McKinney v. Anderson, 924 F.2d 1500, 1511 (9th Cir.), vacated on other grounds *sub nom*. Helling v. McKinney, 502 U.S. 903, 112 S.Ct. 291, 116 L.Ed.2d 236 (1991).

Plaintiff's request, which was submitted after the pretrial order was issued, is belated and non-specific. Even if the court were able to determine the specialty of the witness to be appointed, the expert would need time to prepare, examine plaintiff, and the court should make the witness available for discovery, or at least the submission of a report. No time exists for all of these tasks. Plaintiff's motion for appointment of an expert witness is denied.

According, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 1. Plaintiff's July 12, 2010 motion (Doc. 241) is denied;
- 2. Plaintiff's July 21, 2010 request (Doc. 244) for an expert witness is denied.

DATED: October 6, 2010

4 DiffED. October 0, 2010

GREGORY G. HOLLOWS UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

/s/ Gregory G. Hollows

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