Local Rule 230 (j) requires that a motion for reconsideration include identification of "what new or different facts or circumstances are claimed to exist which did not

exist or were not shown upon such prior motion, or what other grounds exist for the motion," and

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a statement explaining "why the facts or circumstances were not shown at the time of the prior motion." E.D. Cal. L.R. 230(j)(3), (4). This rule derives from the "law of the case" doctrine, which provides that legal decisions made in a case "should be followed unless there is substantially different evidence . . . , new controlling authority, or the prior decision was clearly erroneous and would result in injustice." Handi Inv. Co. v. Mobil Oil Corp., 653 F.2d 391, 392 (9th Cir. 1981); see also Waggoner v. Dallaire, 767 F.2d 589, 593 (9th Cir. 1985), cert. denied, 475 U.S. 1064 (1986). In addition, Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 60, authorizes relief from an order for "any . . . reason that justifies relief," Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(b)(6), subject to an "extraordinary circumstances" standard, so as not to permit "a second bite at the apple," but to avoid inequitable results and accomplish justice. See In re Pacific Far East Lines, Inc., 889 F.2d 242, 250 (9th Cir. 1989).

Plaintiff does not assert that new or different facts or circumstances warrant reconsideration of the court's ruling. Rather, plaintiff asserts, as he has throughout this action, that defendants' evidence is unreliable and, therefore, that the court has rendered an erroneous and unjust decision. However, the challenged decision was reached after the court addressed plaintiff's challenges to defendants' discovery responses (Dkt. No. 81 at 4-14), and denied plaintiff's request for leave to file an amended complaint (<u>id.</u> at 14-16). Plaintiff's instant motion seeks merely to reopen discovery and relitigate the claims decided adversely to plaintiff. These are improper grounds for reconsideration.

Accordingly, plaintiff's motion for reconsideration (Dkt. No. 101), is hereby denied.

DATED: October 28, 2011

WILLIAM B. SHUBB

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE