(PC) Sims v.	Veal et al
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8	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9	FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
10	STANLEY SIMS,
11	Plaintiff, No. CIV S-07-898 KJM EFB P
12	vs.
13	VEAL, et al.,
14	Defendants. ORDER
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16	Plaintiff is a former state prisoner proceeding through counsel with an action under 42
17	U.S.C. § 1983. The court has determined that this case would benefit from a settlement
18	conference. Therefore, this case will be referred to Magistrate Judge Craig M. Kellison to
19	conduct a settlement conference at the U. S. District Court, 501 I Street, Sacramento, California
20	95814 in Courtroom #2 on February 6, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.
21	Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that:
22	1. This case is set for a settlement conference before Magistrate Judge Craig M.
23	Kellison on February 6, 2013, at 2:00 p.m. at the U. S. District Court, 501 I Street,
24	Sacramento, California 95814 in Courtroom #2.
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- Defendants' lead counsel and a person with full and unlimited authority to negotiate and enter into a binding settlement on defendants' behalf shall attend in person.¹
- 3. Those in attendance must be prepared to discuss the claims, defenses and damages. The failure of any counsel, party or authorized person subject to this order to appear in person may result in the imposition of sanctions. In addition, the conference will not proceed and will be reset to another date.
- 4. Each party shall provide a confidential settlement conference statement to Sujean Park, via e-mail at spark@caed.uscourts.gov, no later than January 31, 2013 and file a Notice of Submission of Confidential Settlement Conference Statement (See L.R. 270(d)).

Settlement statements **should not be filed** with the Clerk of the court **nor served on any other party**. Settlement statements shall be clearly marked "confidential" with the date and time of the settlement conference indicated prominently thereon.

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While the exercise of its authority is subject to abuse of discretion review, "the district court has the authority to order parties, including the federal government, to participate in mandatory settlement conferences... ." <u>United States v. United States District Court for the</u> Northern Mariana Islands, 694 F.3d 1051, 1053, 1057, 1059 (9th Cir. 2012)("the district court has broad authority to compel participation in mandatory settlement conference[s]."). The term "full authority to settle" means that the individuals attending the settlement conference must be authorized to fully explore settlement options and to agree at that time to any settlement terms acceptable to the parties. G. Heileman Brewing Co., Inc. v. Joseph Oat Corp., 871 F.2d 648, 653 (7th Cir. 1989), cited with approval in Official Airline Guides, Inc. v. Goss, 6 F. 3d 1385, 1396 (9th Cir. 1993). The individual with full authority to settle must also have "unfettered discretion and authority" to change the settlement position of the party, if appropriate. Pittman v. Brinker Int'l., Inc., 216 F.R.D. 481, 485-86 (D. Ariz. 2003), amended on recon. in part, Pitman v. Brinker Int'l, Inc., 2003 WL 23353478 (D. Ariz. 2003). The purpose behind requiring the attendance of a person with full settlement authority is that the parties' view of the case may be altered during the face to face conference. Pitman, 216 F.R.D. at 486. An authorization to settle for a limited dollar amount or sum certain can be found not to comply with the requirement of full authority to settle. Nick v. Morgan's Foods, Inc., 270 F. 3d 590, 596-97 (8th Cir. 2001).

The confidential settlement statement shall be **no longer than five pages** in length and include the following:

- a. A brief statement of the facts of the case.
- b. A brief statement of the claims and defenses, i.e., statutory or other grounds upon which the claims are founded; a forthright evaluation of the parties' likelihood of prevailing on the claims and defenses; and a description of the major issues in dispute.
- c. A summary of the proceedings to date.
- d. An estimate of the cost and time to be expended for further discovery, pretrial, and trial.
- e. The relief sought.
- f. The party's position on settlement, including present demands and offers and a history of past settlement discussions, offers, and demands.
- g. A brief statement of each party's expectations and goals for the settlement conference.

DATED: January 11, 2013.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE