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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

AMOS RYLES,

Plaintiff,

No. CIV S-08-0615 JAM EFB P

vs.

T. FELKER, et al.,

Defendants.

DISCOVERY AND SCHEDULING ORDER

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 1, 16(b) and 26-36, this action shall proceed  
as follows:

The parties may conduct discovery pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 26  
through 37. Defendants may depose any incarcerated or imprisoned witness, including plaintiff,  
upon giving the notice required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule 30(b)(1) at least  
fourteen days before such a deposition.

If the parties have any discovery disputes, they must comply with all pertinent rules  
including Rules 5, 7, 11, 26, and 37 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Local Rules 5-  
134, 5-135, 6-136, 7-130, 7-131, 11-110, 43-142, and 78-230(m). Unless otherwise ordered,  
Local Rule 37-251 shall not apply. Filing a discovery motion that does not comply with the  
rules may result in imposition of sanctions, including but not limited to denial of the motion.

1 At trial, plaintiff must be prepared to introduce evidence to prove each of the alleged  
2 facts in support of his claims. Trial evidence generally takes the form of: (a) exhibits; and (b)  
3 witness testimony. The parties must file pretrial statements addressing the matters set out in  
4 Local Rule 16-281. The court may strike the pretrial statement of a party who fails strictly to  
5 comply with this rule.

6 The following procedures apply for calling witnesses:

7 I. Obtaining Attendance of an Incarcerated Witness Who Intends to Testify  
8 Voluntarily

9 A witness who is willing to testify without the compulsion of a subpoena, but who is  
10 imprisoned or incarcerated, cannot appear to testify without a court order directing the custodian  
11 to produce him at the time of trial. The court will issue such an order only upon a showing that  
12 the witness has agreed to testify voluntarily and has actual knowledge of relevant facts.

13 Therefore, a party intending to introduce testimony from such a witness must file *with his*  
14 *pretrial statement* a motion for an order directing the witness's custodian to produce the witness  
15 for trial. The motion must:

- 16 1. Identify the witness by name, California Department of Corrections and  
17 Rehabilitation number, and address;
- 18 2. Include affidavits showing that the witness intends to testify voluntarily. This  
19 intention can be shown as follows:

20 A. The *party* can swear by affidavit that the witness has communicated to  
21 him an intention to testify voluntarily. The affidavit must include a  
22 statement of when and where the prospective witness informed the party  
23 of this willingness; or

24 B. The *witness* can swear by affidavit that he is willing to testify without  
25 the compulsion of subpoena.

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1           3. Include affidavits showing each witness has actual knowledge of relevant  
2 facts.

3           The witness's knowledge can be shown as follows:

4                   A. The *party* can swear that he knows the witness saw or heard relevant  
5 facts. For example, if something occurred in plaintiff's cell and plaintiff  
6 saw that a cell-mate was present and observed the incident, then plaintiff  
7 may swear to the cell-mate's ability to testify; or,

8                   B. The *witness* can swear to the relevant facts he observed.

9           Any such affidavit must describe the incident, state when it occurred, where it  
10 occurred, who was present, and how the witness was in a position to see or to hear  
11 what occurred.

12           II.   Obtaining Attendance of an Incarcerated Witness Who Refuses to Testify  
13                   Voluntarily

14           If a party seeks to present testimony of an imprisoned or incarcerated witness who does  
15 not intend to testify voluntarily, the party must *with his pretrial statement* file a motion for an  
16 order directing that witness to appear. Such a motion must comply with the requirements  
17 explained above but the movant must demonstrate that any such witness does not intend to  
18 testify voluntarily.

19           III.   Obtaining Attendance of an Unincarcerated Witness Who Agrees to Testify  
20                   Voluntarily

21           A party need not obtain an order to produce an unincarcerated witness who intends to  
22 testify voluntarily. However, the party is responsible for ensuring attendance of such a witness.

23           IV.   Obtaining Attendance of Unincarcerated Witnesses Who Refuse to Testify  
24                   Voluntarily

25           To obtain the presence of a witness who is at liberty and who refuses to testify  
26 voluntarily, the party who intends to present that witness's testimony must complete a subpoena

1 and submit it to the United States Marshal for service upon the witness. Blank subpoena forms  
2 may be obtained from the Clerk of the Court. Completed subpoenas must be submitted *not*  
3 *earlier than four weeks and not later than two weeks before trial.* The party must also tender  
4 through the United States Marshal a money order payable to the witness in the amount of the  
5 daily witness fee, \$40.00, *plus the witness's travel expenses.* If plaintiff seeks the witness's  
6 presence and proceeds *in forma pauperis*, then plaintiff must also submit a copy of the order  
7 granting him leave so to proceed.

8 The United States Marshal *will not serve a subpoena upon an unincarcerated witness*  
9 *without the witness fee and travel expenses having been tendered.* No statute authorizes the use  
10 of public funds for expenses in civil cases and so even a plaintiff proceeding *in forma pauperis*  
11 must tender the fees.

12 Good cause appearing, it is ORDERED that:

13 1. The parties may conduct discovery until February 12, 2010. Any motions necessary  
14 to compel discovery shall be filed by that date. All requests for discovery pursuant to Fed. R.  
15 Civ. P. 31, 33, 34, or 36 shall be served not later than December 15, 2009.

16 2. Motions to amend the complaint shall be filed no later than February 12, 2010.

17 3. Dispositive motions shall be filed on or before May 7, 2010. Motions shall be briefed  
18 in accordance with paragraph 7 of the order filed July 23, 2008.

19 4. The court will schedule pretrial proceedings, if necessary, upon the resolution of any  
20 pretrial motions filed. Requests to modify this schedule will be looked upon with disfavor and  
21 must be supported by good cause pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b).

22 DATED: October 20, 2009.

23   
24 EDMUND F. BRENNAN  
25 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
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