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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

DIMAS O'CAMPO,

Plaintiff,

v.

RAGHBIR SINGH GHOMAN, et al.,

Defendants.

NO. CIV. S-08-1624 KJM DAD

STATUS (PRETRIAL SCHEDULING)
ORDER

An initial scheduling conference was held in this case on June 14, 2012; Lynn Hubbard, III appeared for plaintiff; Alfred Driscoll appeared for defendant. Having discussed a schedule for the case with counsel at the hearing, the court makes the following orders:

I. SERVICE OF PROCESS

All named defendants have been served and no further service is permitted without leave of court, good cause having been shown.

II. ADDITIONAL PARTIES/AMENDMENTS/PLEADINGS

No further joinder of parties or amendments to pleadings is permitted without leave of court, good cause having been shown. *See* FED. R. CIV. P. 16(b); *Johnson v. Mammoth Recreations, Inc.*, 975 F.2d 604 (9th Cir. 1992).

III. JURISDICTION/VENUE

Jurisdiction is predicated upon 28 U.S.C. § 1331. Jurisdiction and venue are not disputed.

1 IV. DISCOVERY

2 Initial disclosures as required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a) shall be
3 completed by **June 28, 2012**. All discovery shall be completed by **January 31, 2013**. In this
4 context, “completed” means that all discovery shall have been conducted so that all depositions
5 have been taken and any disputes relative to discovery shall have been resolved by appropriate
6 order if necessary and, where discovery has been ordered, the order has been obeyed. All
7 motions to compel discovery must be noticed on the magistrate judge’s calendar in accordance
8 with the local rules of this court.

9 V. DISCLOSURE OF EXPERT WITNESSES

10 All counsel are to designate in writing, file with the court, and serve upon all other
11 parties the name, address, and area of expertise of each expert that they propose to tender at trial
12 not later than **November 30, 2012**. The designation shall be accompanied by a written report
13 prepared and signed by the witness. The report shall comply with Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(B).
14 By **December 20, 2012**, any party who previously disclosed expert witnesses may submit a
15 supplemental list of expert witnesses who will express an opinion on a subject covered by an
16 expert designated by an adverse party, if the party supplementing an expert witness designation
17 has not previously retained an expert to testify on that subject. The supplemental designation
18 shall be accompanied by a written report which shall also comply with the conditions as stated
19 above.

20 Failure of a party to comply with the disclosure schedule as set forth above in all
21 likelihood will preclude that party from calling the expert witness at the time of trial. An expert
22 witness not appearing on the designation will not be permitted to testify unless the party offering
23 the witness demonstrates: (a) that the necessity for the witness could not have been reasonably
24 anticipated at the time the list was proffered; (b) that the court and opposing counsel were
25 promptly notified upon discovery of the witness; and (c) that the witness was promptly made
26 available for deposition.

27 For purposes of this scheduling order, an “expert” is any person who may be used at trial
28 to present evidence under Rules 702, 703, and 705 of the Federal Rules of Evidence, which

1 include both “percipient experts” (persons who, because of their expertise, have rendered expert
2 opinions in the normal course of their work duties or observations pertinent to the issues in the
3 case) and “retained experts” (persons specifically designated by a party to be a testifying expert
4 for the purposes of litigation). Each party shall identify whether a disclosed expert is percipient,
5 retained, or both. It will be assumed that a party designating a retained expert has acquired the
6 express permission of the witness to be so listed. Parties designating percipient experts must
7 state in the designation who is responsible for arranging the deposition of such persons.

8 All experts designated are to be fully prepared at the time of designation to render an
9 informed opinion, and give their bases for their opinion, so that they will be able to give full and
10 complete testimony at any deposition taken by the opposing party. Experts will not be permitted
11 to testify at the trial as to any information gathered or evaluated, or opinion formed, after
12 deposition taken subsequent to designation. All expert discovery shall be completed by **January**
13 **18, 2013**.

14 VI. MOTION HEARING SCHEDULE

15 All dispositive motions, except motions for continuances, temporary restraining orders or
16 other emergency applications, shall be heard no later than **March 29, 2013**. The parties may
17 obtain available hearing dates by calling Casey Schultz, the Courtroom Deputy, at (916) 930-
18 4193.

19 All purely legal issues are to be resolved by timely pretrial motions. Local Rule 230
20 governs the calendaring and procedures of civil motions with the following additions:

- 21 (a) The opposition and reply must be filed by 4:00 p.m. on the day due; and
- 22 (b) When the last day for filing an opposition brief falls on a legal holiday, the
23 opposition brief shall be filed on the last court day immediately preceding
24 the legal holiday.

25 Failure to comply with Local Rule 230(c), as modified by this order, may be deemed consent to
26 the motion and the court may dispose of the motion summarily. *Brydges v. Lewis*, 18 F.3d 651,
27 652-53 (9th Cir. 1994).

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1 The court places a page limit of twenty (20) pages on all moving papers, twenty (20)
2 pages on oppositions, and ten (10) pages for replies. All requests for page limit increases must
3 be made through the courtroom deputy clerk at least fourteen (14) days prior to the filing of the
4 motion.

5 The parties are reminded that a motion *in limine* is a pretrial procedural device designed
6 to address the admissibility of evidence. The court will look with disfavor upon dispositional
7 motions presented at the Final Pretrial Conference or at trial in the guise of motions *in limine*.

8 The parties are cautioned that failure to raise a dispositive legal issue that could have
9 been tendered to the court by proper pretrial motion prior to the dispositive motion cut-off date
10 may constitute waiver of such issue.

11 VII. SEALING

12 No document will be sealed, nor shall a redacted document be filed, without the prior
13 approval of the court. All requests to seal or redact shall be governed by Local Rules 141
14 (sealing) and 140 (redaction); protective orders shall not govern the filing of sealed or redacted
15 documents on the public docket. The court will only consider requests to seal or redact filed by
16 the proponent of sealing or redaction. If a party plans to make a filing that includes material an
17 opposing party has identified as confidential and potentially subject to sealing, the filing party
18 shall provide the opposing party with sufficient notice in advance of filing to allow for the
19 seeking of an order of sealing or redaction from the court.

20 VIII. FINAL PRETRIAL CONFERENCE

21 The Final Pretrial Conference is set for **May 16, 2013**, at 3:30 p.m. At least one of the
22 attorneys who will conduct the trial for each of the parties shall attend the Final Pretrial
23 Conference. If by reason of illness or other unavoidable circumstance a trial attorney is unable
24 to attend, the attorney who attends in place of the trial attorney shall have equal familiarity with
25 the case and equal authorization to make commitments on behalf of the client.

26 Counsel for all parties are to be fully prepared for trial at the time of the Final Pretrial
27 Conference, with no matters remaining to be accomplished except production of witnesses for
28 oral testimony. The parties shall confer and file a joint pretrial conference statement by **April**

1 **25, 2013.** The provisions of Local Rule 281 shall apply with respect to the matters to be
2 included in the joint pretrial statement. In addition to those subjects listed in Local Rule 281(b),
3 the parties are to provide the court with a plain, concise statement that identifies every non-
4 discovery motion tendered to the court and its resolution.

5 Failure to comply with Local Rule 281, as modified by this order, may be grounds for
6 sanctions.

7 Concurrently with the filing of the Joint Final Pretrial Conference Statement, counsel
8 shall submit to chambers the word processing version of the statement, in its entirety (including
9 the witness and exhibit lists) to: kjmorders@caed.uscourts.gov.

10 The parties shall, in a concise manner, jointly identify only undisputed core facts
11 separately that are relevant to each claim. Disputed core facts should then be identified in the
12 same manner. The parties are reminded not to identify every fact in dispute but only those
13 disputed facts that are essential to the formulation of each claim. Each disputed fact and
14 undisputed fact should be separately numbered or lettered. Where the parties are unable to agree
15 what are the core disputed facts, they should nevertheless list core disputed facts in the above
16 manner.

17 Each party shall identify and concisely list each disputed evidentiary issue which will be
18 the subject of a party's motion *in limine*.

19 Each party shall identify the points of law which concisely describe the legal issues of the
20 trial which will be discussed in the parties' respective trial briefs. Points of law should reflect
21 issues derived from the core undisputed and disputed facts. Parties shall not include argument or
22 authorities with any point of law.

23 The parties shall prepare a joint statement of the case in plain concise language which
24 will be read to the jury at the beginning of the trial. The purpose of the joint statement is to
25 inform the jury what the case is about.

26 The parties are reminded that pursuant to Local Rule 281 they are required to attach to
27 the Final Pretrial Conference Statement an exhibit listing witnesses and exhibits they propose to
28 offer at trial. After the name of each witness, each party shall provide a brief statement of the

1 nature of the testimony to be proffered. The parties may file a joint list or each party may file
2 separate lists. These list(s) shall not be contained in the body of the Final Pretrial Conference
3 Statement itself, but shall be attached as separate documents to be used as addenda to the Final
4 Pretrial Order.

5 Plaintiff's exhibits shall be listed numerically. Defendant's exhibits shall be listed
6 alphabetically. The parties shall use the standard exhibit stickers provided by the court: pink for
7 plaintiff and blue for defendant. In the event that the alphabet is exhausted, the exhibits shall be
8 marked "AA-ZZ". However, if the amount of defendant exhibits exceeds "ZZ" exhibits shall be
9 then listed as A-3, A-4, A-5 etc. All multi page exhibits shall be stapled or otherwise fastened
10 together and each page within the exhibit shall be numbered. The list of exhibits shall not
11 include excerpts of depositions, which may be used to impeach witnesses. In the event that
12 plaintiff(s) and defendant(s) offer the same exhibit during trial, that exhibit shall be referred to
13 by the designation the exhibit is first identified. The court cautions the parties to pay attention to
14 this detail so that all concerned, including the jury, will not be confused by one exhibit being
15 identified with both a number and a letter. The parties are encouraged to consult concerning
16 exhibits and, to the extent possible, provide joint exhibits, which shall be designated as JX and
17 listed numerically, e.g., JX-1, JX-2.

18 The Final Pretrial Order will contain a stringent standard for the offering at trial of
19 witnesses and exhibits not listed in the Final Pretrial Order, and the parties are cautioned that the
20 standard will be strictly applied. On the other hand, the listing of exhibits or witnesses that a
21 party does not intend to offer will be viewed as an abuse of the court's processes.

22 Counsel shall produce all trial exhibits to Casey Schultz, the Courtroom Deputy, no later
23 than 3:00 p.m. on the Friday before trial.

24 Discovery documents to be listed in the pretrial statement shall not include documents
25 which will be used only for impeachment and in rebuttal.

26 The parties also are reminded that pursuant to Rule 16 of the Federal Rules of Civil
27 Procedure it will be their duty at the Final Pretrial Conference to aid the court in: (a) the
28 formulation and simplification of issues and the elimination of frivolous claims or defenses; (b)

1 the settling of facts that should properly be admitted; and (c) the avoidance of unnecessary proof
2 and cumulative evidence. Counsel must cooperatively prepare the joint Final Pretrial
3 Conference Statement and participate in good faith at the Final Pretrial Conference with these
4 aims in mind.¹ A failure to do so may result in the imposition of sanctions which may include
5 monetary sanctions, orders precluding proof, elimination of claims or defenses, or such other
6 sanctions as the court deems appropriate.

7 **IX. TRIAL SETTING**

8 The trial is set for **June 24, 2013** at 9:00 a.m. The parties estimate a trial length of
9 approximately three to five days. Trial briefs are due by **June 10, 2013**.

10 **X. SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE**

11 The parties have expressed interest in a settlement conference and are amenable to a
12 settlement conference convened by a member of the court's Voluntary Dispute Resolution Panel
13 (VDRP). Accordingly, this matter is referred to the court's ADR Coordinator, Sujean Park, for
14 referral to VDRP for the convening of a VDRP session, at which a principal with full settlement
15 authority for each party shall appear.

16 **XI. MODIFICATION OF STATUS (PRETRIAL SCHEDULING) ORDER**

17 The parties are reminded that pursuant to Rule 16(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil
18 Procedure, the Status (Pretrial Scheduling) Order shall not be modified except by leave of court
19 upon a showing of good cause. Agreement by the parties pursuant to stipulation alone does not
20 constitute good cause. Except in extraordinary circumstances, unavailability of witnesses or
21 counsel does not constitute good cause.

22 **XII. OTHER**

23 On May 15, 2012, the parties were ordered to show cause why they each should not be
24 sanctioned \$250.00 for failing to file their joint status report. The parties state their failure to file

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27 ¹ "If the pretrial conference discloses that no material facts are in dispute and that the
28 undisputed facts entitle one of the parties to judgment as a matter of law," the court may
summarily dispose of the case or claims. *Portsmouth Square v. Shareholders Protective Comm.*,
770 F.2d 866, 868-69 (9th Cir. 1985).

1 was due to a calendaring error. The court's May 15, 2012 Order to Show Cause (ECF No. 34) is
2 discharged.

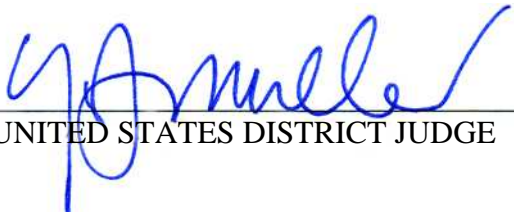
3 On April 5, 2010, a Clerk's Certificate of Entry of Default was filed (ECF No. 18) for
4 defendants' failure to appear, plead or answer plaintiff's complaint. On March 19, 2012
5 defendants filed an answer. The Clerk's Entry of Default is vacated.

6 XIII. OBJECTIONS TO STATUS (PRETRIAL SCHEDULING) ORDER

7 This Status Order will become final without further order of the court unless objections
8 are filed within fourteen (14) *calendar* days of service of this Order.

9 IT IS SO ORDERED.

10 DATED: June 20, 2012.

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13 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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