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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

DEVONTE B. HARRIS,
Plaintiff,
v.
KEITH HIGGINS, et al.,
Defendants.

No. 2:08-cv-1711-EFB P

ORDER SETTING SETTLEMENT
CONFERENCE

Plaintiff, a state prisoner, is proceeding pro se with this civil rights action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. The court has determined that this case will benefit from a settlement conference. Therefore, this case will be referred to Magistrate Judge Kendall J. Newman to conduct a settlement conference at California State Prison, Sacramento, 100 Prison Road, Represa, California 95671 on August 21, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

In accordance with the above, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. This case is set for a settlement conference before Magistrate Judge Kendall J. Newman on August 21, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at California State Prison, Sacramento, 100 Prison Road, Represa, California 95671.
2. A representative with full and unlimited authority to negotiate and enter into a binding settlement on the defendants’ behalf shall attend in person.¹

¹ 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... .” United States

- 1 3. Those in attendance must be prepared to discuss the claims, defenses and damages.
2 The failure of any counsel, party or authorized person subject to this order to appear in
3 person may result in the imposition of sanctions. In addition, the conference will not
4 proceed and will be reset to another date.
- 5 4. The parties are directed to exchange non-confidential settlement statements seven days
6 prior to the settlement conference. These statements shall simultaneously be delivered
7 to the Court using the following email address: kjnorders@caed.uscourts.gov.
8 Plaintiff shall mail his non-confidential settlement statement to arrive not less than
9 seven days prior to the settlement conference, addressed to Magistrate Judge Kendall
10 J. Newman, USDC CAED, 501 I Street, Suite 4-200, Sacramento, CA 95814. The
11 envelope shall be marked "Settlement Statement." If a party desires to share
12 additional confidential information with the Court, they may do so pursuant to the
13 provisions of Local Rule 270(d) and (e).

14 DATED: June 27, 2017.

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16 EDMUND F. BRENNAN
17 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
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23 v. United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, 694 F.3d 1051, 1053, 1057, 1059 (9th Cir.
24 2012)("the district court has broad authority to compel participation in mandatory settlement conference[s]"). The
25 term "full authority to settle" means that the individuals attending the mediation conference must be authorized to
26 fully explore settlement options and to agree at that time to any settlement terms acceptable to the parties. G.
27 Heileman Brewing Co., Inc. v. Joseph Oat Corp., 871 F.2d 648, 653 (7th Cir. 1989), cited with approval in Official
28 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. Pitman 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).