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

ANDREW RICK LOPEZ,

Case No. 2:09-cv-1760-MCE-AC

Plaintiff,

vs.

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, et al.,

ORDER SETTING SETTLEMENT
CONFERENCE

Defendant.

_____/

Plaintiff is a state prisoner proceeding through counsel with an action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. This case will be referred to Magistrate Judge Jennifer L. Thurston for the court's Settlement Week Program to conduct a settlement conference on June 12, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. at California State Prison-Corcoran (CSP-COR).

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

1. This case is set for a settlement conference before Magistrate Judge Jennifer L. Thurston on June 12, 2013, at 1:30 p.m. at CSP-COR, 4001 King Avenue, Corcoran, CA 93212.
2. Defendants' lead counsel and a person with full and unlimited authority to

1 negotiate and enter into a binding settlement on defendants' behalf shall attend in person.¹

2 3. Those in attendance must be prepared to discuss the claims, defenses and
3 damages. The failure of any counsel, party or authorized person subject to this order to
4 participate in the settlement conference may result in the imposition of sanctions. In addition,
5 the conference will not proceed and will be reset to another date.

6 4. Each party shall provide a confidential settlement conference statement to
7 Sujean Park, 501 I Street, Suite 4-200, Sacramento, California 95814, or via e-mail at
8 spark@caed.uscourts.gov, so they arrive no later than June 4, 2013 and file a Notice of
9 Submission of Confidential Settlement Conference Statement (See Local Rule 270(d)).

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

13 The confidential settlement statement shall be **no longer than five pages** in
14 length, typed or neatly printed, and include the following:

- 15 a. A brief statement of the facts of the case.
16 b. A brief statement of the claims and defenses, i.e., statutory or other
17

18 ¹ While the exercise of its authority is subject to abuse of discretion review, "the district
19 court has the authority to order parties, including the federal government, to participate in
20 mandatory settlement conferences... ." United States v. United States District Court for the
21 Northern Mariana Islands, 694 F.3d 1051, 1053, 1057, 1059 (9th Cir. 2012) ("the district court has
22 broad authority to compel participation in mandatory settlement conference[s]"). The term "full
23 authority to settle" means that the individuals attending the mediation conference must be
24 authorized to fully explore settlement options and to agree at that time to any settlement terms
25 acceptable to the parties. G. Heileman Brewing Co., Inc. v. Joseph Oat Corp., 871 F.2d 648,
26 653 (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. 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).

1 grounds upon which the claims are founded; a forthright evaluation of the parties' likelihood of
2 prevailing on the claims and defenses; and a description of the major issues in dispute.

3 c. A summary of the proceedings to date.

4 d. An estimate of the cost and time to be expended for further discovery,
5 pretrial, and trial.

6 e. The relief sought.

7 f. The party's position on settlement, including present demands and
8 offers and a history of past settlement discussions, offers, and demands.

9 g. A brief statement of each party's expectations and goals for the
10 settlement conference.

11 5. The Clerk of the Court is directed to serve a copy of this order on the
12 Litigation Office at CSP-COR via facsimile at (559) 992-7372.

13 DATED: April 30, 2013.

14 
15 ALLISON CLAIRE
16 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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