1 2 3 4 5 6 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 9 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, No. 2:10-cv-02591-MCE-KJN 12 Plaintiff. 13 ORDER CONTINUING TRIAL ٧. 14 JAMES O. MOLEN, ET AL., 15 Defendant. 16 YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED the Bench trial is vacated and continued to 17 18 **February 23, 2015**, at **9:00 a.m.** in Courtroom 7. The parties shall file trial briefs not 19 later than **December 23, 2014**. Counsel are directed to Local Rule 285 regarding the 20 content of trial briefs. 21 Accordingly, the August 21, 2014 Final Pretrial Conference is vacated and 22 continued to **January 8, 2015**, at **2:00 p.m.** in Courtroom 7. The Joint Final Pretrial 23 Statement is due not later than **December 16, 2014** and shall comply with the 24 procedures outlined in the Court's Pretrial Scheduling Order. The personal appearances 25 of the trial attorneys or person(s) in pro se is mandatory for the Final Pretrial Conference. 26 Telephonic appearances for this hearing are not permitted. /// 27 28 /// 1

Any evidentiary or procedural motions are to be filed by **December 16, 2014**.

Oppositions must be filed by **December 23, 2014** and any reply must be filed by **December 30, 2014**. The motions will be heard by the Court at the same time as the Final Pretrial Conference.

Due to the Court's high civil caseload, the parties are encouraged to consider consenting to a jury or nonjury trial before the assigned Magistrate Judge¹ as well as availing themselves of the Court's Alternative Dispute Resolution programs.² See E.D. Cal. Local Rs. 171, 301.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: July 28, 2014

MORRISON C. ENGLAND, JR, CHIEF JUDGE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

¹ The Eastern District of California has for years been one of the busiest District Courts in the nation. The parties are reminded that pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 73 and Local Rule 301, the parties may consent to a jury or nonjury trial before the assigned Magistrate Judge. As a result of the Court's high civil case load and the statutory right to a speedy trial in criminal cases, the parties are encouraged to consider the advantages of consenting to Magistrate Judge jurisdiction. Magistrate Judges can assign civil litigants a trial date much sooner and with more certainty than District Court Judges. In addition, since Magistrate Judges do not try felony cases, a trial date assigned by one can be considered a firm date which will not be preempted by a criminal case. Exercise of this jurisdiction by a Magistrate Judge is however, permitted only if all parties file a voluntarily consent form. Parties may, without adverse substantive consequences, withhold their consent, but this will prevent the Court's case dispositive jurisdiction from being exercised by a Magistrate Judge.

² The Court may, at the election of all the parties, refer certain actions to the Voluntary Dispute Resolution Program ("VDRP"). If the parties believe that participation in a mediation and/or a settlement conference with a Magistrate Judge would be beneficial, they are encouraged to contact the Court's Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Division, in writing, at the address or email address below: ADR Division, Attention: Sujean Park, U.S. District Court, 501 I Street, Suite 4-200, Sacramento, CA 95814, email: spark@caed.uscourts.gov. Alternatively, the parties may request referral to the VDRP by filing a Stipulation and Proposed Order reflecting the agreement of all parties to submit the action to the VDRP pursuant to Local Rule 271. Should the parties reach a settlement or otherwise resolve their case by agreement of the parties, they are reminded that it is the duty of counsel to immediately file a notice of settlement or resolution as set forth in Local Rule 160.