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

ESCO MARINE INC.,

Plaintiff,

Civ. S-11-1353 KJM GGH

vs.

SS PACIFIC STAR,

Defendant.

ORDER

_____ /

Presently pending on this court’s law and motion calendar for September 15, 2011, is defense counsel Robert Sheppard’s motion to withdraw as counsel. There has been no opposition. Having reviewed the motion to withdraw, the court finds that the matter is appropriate for decision without oral argument. The court finds that withdrawal is appropriate based on Mr. Sheppard’s representations.

Withdrawal of counsel is governed by the Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of California and the Local Rules of the United States District Court, Eastern District of California. See Local Rule 182. The withdrawal of representation is permitted under the Rules of Professional Conduct if “[t]he client knowingly and freely assents to termination of the employment....” Cal. R.P.C. 3-700(C)(5). Local Rule 182 provides that “an attorney who has appeared may not withdraw leaving the client *in propria persona* without leave of court upon

