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

SCOTT JOHNSON,

Plaintiff,

v.

PATRICIA GUERRERO, et al.,

Defendants.

No. 2:16-cv-0445-MCE-AC

ORDER

Plaintiff filed the above-entitled action. The matter was referred to a United States Magistrate Judge pursuant to Local Rule 302.

On January 16, 2018, the Magistrate Judge filed findings and recommendations herein which were served on all parties and which contained notice to all parties that any objections to the findings and recommendations were to be filed within twenty-one days. ECF No. 25. Neither party filed objections to the findings and recommendations.

The Court has conducted a de novo review of this case, and finds the findings and recommendations to be supported by the record and proper analysis. Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. The findings and recommendations filed January 16, 2018, are ADOPTED in full;
2. Plaintiff's motion for default judgement (ECF No. 12) is DENIED;

1 3. Defendants' motions for relief from default (ECF No. 17, 18, 19) are
2 GRANTED;

3 4. This action is STAYED pending further order from the Court;

4 5. The parties are directed to promptly meet and confer to discuss settlement of
5 this action. Settlement discussions require focus and preparations and should involve
6 the attorneys who will try the case on any terms. Plaintiff should initiate settlement
7 discussions by providing a written itemization of damages and a meaningful settlement
8 demand that includes an explanation of why the demand is appropriate. Defendant
9 should respond with an acceptance of the offer, or with a meaningful counteroffer that
10 includes an explanation of why the counteroffer is reasonable. The parties should
11 continue in this way until they reach settlement or have exhausted informal settlement
12 efforts.

13 6. If the parties have not reached a settlement within 45 days of the date of this
14 order, the parties shall initiate participation in the Court's Voluntary Dispute Resolution
15 Program ("VDRP") by Court's VDRP administrator, Sujean Park, at (916) 930-4278 or
16 Spark@caed.uscourts.gov.

17 7. The parties shall carefully review and comply with Local Rule 271, which
18 outlines the specifications and requirements of VDRP.

19 8. No later than fourteen (14) days after completion of the VDRP session, the
20 parties shall jointly file their VDRP Completion Report, consistent with Local Rule 271(o).

21 IT IS SO ORDERED.

22 Dated: September 16, 2018

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25 MORRISON C. ENGLAND, JR.
26 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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