

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

MATTHEW M. DENNIS,  
  
  Plaintiff,  
  
                  v.  
  
SCOTT KERNAN, *et al.*,  
  
  Defendants.

Case No. 2:16-cv-00542-DAD-AC (PC)  
  
ORDER (1) SETTING SETTLEMENT  
CONFERENCE, (2) REQUIRING PERSONAL  
ATTENDANCE BY CERTAIN  
INDIVIDUALS, AND (3) REQUIRING  
SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE  
STATEMENT MEETING CERTAIN  
PARAMETERS

Magistrate Judge Jeremy D. Peterson will hold a settlement conference by Zoom on December 13, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. The court expects that the parties will proceed with the settlement conference in good faith and attempt to resolve all or part of the case. If any party believes that the settlement conference will not be productive, that party shall so inform the court as far in advance of the settlement conference as possible. Unless otherwise permitted in advance by the court, the following individuals must attend the settlement conference: (1) all of the attorney(s) who will try the case; and (2) individuals with full authority to negotiate and settle the case, on any terms.

No later than one week prior to the settlement conference, each party must submit to Judge Peterson’s chambers at [jdorders@caed.uscourts.gov](mailto:jdorders@caed.uscourts.gov), or by mail at U.S. District Court, 501 I Street, Suite 4-200, Sacramento, CA 95814, a confidential settlement conference statement. These statements should neither be filed on the docket nor served on any other party. The

1 statements should be marked “CONFIDENTIAL” and should state the date and time of the  
2 conference. The statements should not be lengthy but should include:

3 (1) a brief recitation of the facts;

4 (2) a discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of the case;

5 (3) an itemized estimate of the expected costs for further discovery, pretrial, and trial  
6 matters, in specific dollar terms;

7 (4) your best estimate of the probability that plaintiff will obtain a finding of liability  
8 should this case proceed to trial, in percentage terms;

9 (5) should this case proceed to trial and defendant be found liable, please provide the  
10 following, in specific dollar terms:

11 (a) a realistic high-end recovery estimate (*i.e.*, realistic best- or worst-case  
12 scenario);

13 (b) a realistic low-end recovery estimate (*i.e.*, realistic worst- or best-case  
14 scenario); and

15 (c) a best estimate of the most likely outcome;

16 (6) a history of settlement discussions, including:

17 (a) a statement of your expectations for settlement discussions;

18 (b) a listing of any past and present settlement offers from any party (including all  
19 terms);

20 (c) whether your party would consider making the opening offer or demand, and  
21 what that offer might be<sup>1</sup>;

22 (7) a list of the individuals who will be participating in the settlement conference on your  
23 party’s behalf, including each participant’s name and, if appropriate, title;

24 (8) an estimate of restitution and fees, including court fees and filing fees, owed by  
25 plaintiff; and

26 (9) identification of any related cases, any prior resolutions involving the plaintiff, or of

27 \_\_\_\_\_  
28 <sup>1</sup> Please note that Judge Peterson will consider this response, among others, in evaluating whether proceeding with a settlement conference appears worthwhile.

1 any other cases that the parties might wish to discuss at this settlement conference.

2

3 In accordance with the above, it is hereby ORDERED that:

4 1. A settlement conference is set before Magistrate Judge Peterson on December 13,  
5 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

6 2. No later than December 6, 2023, each party must submit a confidential settlement  
7 conference statement, as described above, to Magistrate Judge Peterson.

8

9

10 Dated: October 26, 2023

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JEREMY D. PETERSON  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28