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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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SCOTT JOHNSON,
Plaintiff,

v.

XINLIANG BAI and DOES 1
through 10,

Defendant.

NO. CIV. 2:16-1698 WBS GGH

ORDER REFERRING CASE TO VDRP AND
VACATING PRIOR ORDER SETTING
EARLY SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE WITH
THE ASSIGNED MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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The court has determined that this case is appropriate for an early settlement conference and because of the limited availability of the assigned magistrate judge will refer the action to the court's Voluntary Dispute Resolution Program ("VDRP").

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. This court's November 10, 2016 order setting the case for an early settlement conference before the assigned

1 magistrate judge is hereby VACATED. The parties shall contact
2 the assigned magistrate judge and inform him of this order.

3 2. Within fourteen (14) days of this Order, the
4 parties shall contact the court's VDRP administrator, Sujean
5 Park, at (916) 930-4278 or SPark@caed.uscourts.gov, to start the
6 process of selecting an appropriate neutral. The parties shall
7 carefully review and comply with Local Rule 271, which outlines
8 the specifications and requirements of the VDRP.

9 3. Any party that objects to this referral to the
10 VDRP shall file its objections within seven (7) days of this
11 Order. Such objections shall clearly outline why that party
12 believes that the action is not appropriate for referral to the
13 VDRP.

14 4. To avoid the unnecessary expenditure of costs and
15 attorneys' fees, this action is hereby stayed to provide the
16 parties time to complete the VDRP session. No later than five
17 (5) days after completion of the VDRP session, the parties shall
18 file a joint statement indicating whether a settlement was
19 reached.

20 5. The parties shall complete the VDRP session no
21 later than March 30, 2017. The court hereby resets the Status
22 (Pretrial Scheduling) Conference for May 8, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. If
23 a settlement is not reached through VDRP, the parties shall
24 submit an Amended Joint Status Report no later than April 24,
25 2017.

26 IT IS SO ORDERED.

27 Dated: January 24, 2017



28 **WILLIAM B. SHUBB**
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE