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 14 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
 15 EASTERN DISTRICT CALIFORNIA  
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17 GERALD A. FORREST, an individual doing  
 18 buisness as GOSPELCHOPS,  
 19  
 20 Plaintiff,  
 21  
 22 v.  
 23 VIC FIRTH COMPANY, a Massachusetts  
 corporation,  
 24 Defendant.

Case No: 2:16-cv-02981-KJM-EFB

**STIPULATION TO ELECT REFERRAL  
 OF ACTION TO VOLUNTARY DISPUTE  
 RESOLUTION PROGRAM (VDRP)  
 PURSUANT TO LOCAL RULE 271;  
 ORDER**

1 Pursuant to Local Rule 271, the parties hereby agree to submit the above-entitled action  
2 to the Voluntary Dispute Resolution Program (“VDRP”). The parties request that, pursuant to  
3 Local Rule 270(e)(3), the VDRP Administrator supply the parties of a list of potential Neutrals,  
4 from which the parties shall agree upon one. The VDRP process (specifically, mediation) should  
5 take place in May or June 2017 or as soon thereafter as is convenient to the Court, with the  
6 Neutral to file confirmation of the completion within 14 days after the completion of the  
7 process. No aspect of pretrial activity should be stayed until the session is concluded, and no  
8 modification of the case management plan proposed by the parties in their Joint Status Report,  
9 filed concurrently herewith, is advisable.

10 **IT IS SO STIPULATED.**

11 Dated: April 24, 2017

COHORN LAW

12 By /s/ Cari A. Cohorn

Cari A. Cohorn

Attorneys for Plaintiff

15 Dated: April 24, 2017

NIXON PEABODY LLP

16 By /s/ Aldo E. Ibarra (as authorized 4/19/17)

ROBERT A. WEIKERT

ALDO E. IBARRA

Attorneys for Defendant

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20 **ORDER**

21 Given the parties’ stipulation, the court refers the matter to the court’s ADR Coordinator  
22 Sujean Park for the scheduling of a VDRP session as requested by the parties. The initial  
23 scheduling conference on April 27, 2017 is VACATED. The court will issue a scheduling order  
24 based on the parties’ joint status report so the case schedule is clear if the case does not settle in  
25 VDRP. The parties may jointly request a status or scheduling conference following the  
26 completion of VDRP if they believe meeting with the court is then warranted.

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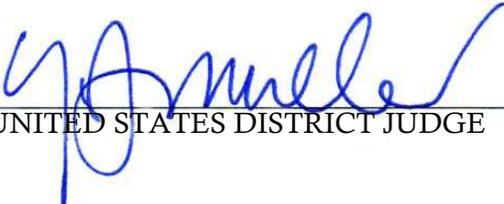
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IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: April 24, 2017

  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE