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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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CYNTHIA HOPSON,  
Plaintiff,  
v.  
TOM HILLIER FORD, an entity;  
THOMAS HILLIER, an  
individual; MARJORY HILLIER,  
an individual; and DOES 1  
through 10, inclusive;  
Defendants.

CIV. NO. 2:16-3000 WBS CKD  
ORDER REFERRING CASE TO VDRP AND  
STAYING PROCEEDINGS

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

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Within fourteen (14) days of this Order, the parties shall contact the court's VDRP administrator, Sujean Park, at (916) 930-4278 or SPark@caed.uscourts.gov, to start the

1 process of selecting an appropriate neutral. The parties shall  
2 carefully review and comply with Local Rule 271, which outlines  
3 the specifications and requirements of the VDRP.

4 2. Any party that objects to this referral to the  
5 VDRP shall file its objections within seven (7) days of this  
6 Order. Such objections shall clearly outline why that party  
7 believes that the action is not appropriate for referral to the  
8 VDRP.

9 3. To avoid the unnecessary expenditure of costs and  
10 attorneys' fees, this action is hereby stayed to provide the  
11 parties time to complete the VDRP session. No later than five  
12 (5) days after completion of the VDRP session, the parties shall  
13 file a joint statement indicating whether a settlement was  
14 reached.

15 4. The parties shall complete the VDRP session no  
16 later than June 23, 2017. The court hereby resets the Status  
17 (Pretrial Scheduling) Conference for July 31, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.  
18 If a settlement is not reached through VDRP, the parties shall  
19 submit an Amended Joint Status Report no later than July 17,  
20 2017.

21 IT IS SO ORDERED.

22 Dated: April 14, 2017



23 **WILLIAM B. SHUBB**  
24 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**

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