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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
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12 SCOTT JOHNSON,
13 Plaintiff,

14 v.

15 RAJ KUMAR SHARMA; NAMARTA
16 SHARMA; SRIHAN ENTERPRISE,
INC., a California
17 Corporation; and Does 1-10,
18 Defendants.

NO. CIV. 2:17-01183 WBS CKD

ORDER REFERRING CASE TO VDRP AND
STAYING PROCEEDINGS

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

23 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

24 1. Within fourteen (14) days of this Order, the
25 parties shall contact the court's VDRP administrator, Sujean
26 Park, at (916) 930-4278 or SPark@caed.uscourts.gov, to start the
27 process of selecting an appropriate neutral. The parties shall
28 carefully review and comply with Local Rule 271, which outlines

1 the specifications and requirements of the VDRP.

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

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

13 4. The parties shall complete the VDRP session no
14 later than December 5, 2017. The court hereby resets the Status
15 (Pretrial Scheduling) Conference for January 16, 2018 at
16 1:30 p.m. If a settlement is not reached through VDRP, the
17 parties shall submit an Amended Joint Status Report no later than
18 January 2, 2018.

19 IT IS SO ORDERED.

20 Dated: October 3, 2017



21 WILLIAM B. SHUBB

22 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE