1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 9 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 ----00000----11 12 SCOTT JOHNSON, CIV. NO. 2:18-187 WBS EFB Plaintiff, 13 ORDER REFERRING CASE TO VDRP AND STAYING PROCEEDINGS 14 V. 15 IRAJ SAFAPOUR, Trustee of the Safapour Family Trust Dated February 24, 2011; MAHVASH 16 SAFAPOUR, Trustee of the 17 Safapour Family Trust Dated February 24, 2011; and DOES 18 1-10,19 Defendants. 20 ----00000----2.1 The court has determined that this case is appropriate 22 for an early settlement conference and will refer the action to 23 the court's Voluntary Dispute Resolution Program ("VDRP"). 24 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that: 25 Within fourteen (14) days of this Order, the 1. 26 parties shall contact the court's VDRP administrator, Sujean 27 Park, at (916) 930-4278 or SPark@caed.uscourts.gov, to start the

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

- 2. Any party that objects to this referral to the VDRP shall file its objections within seven (7) days of this Order. Such objections shall clearly outline why that party believes that the action is not appropriate for referral to the VDRP.
- 3. To avoid the unnecessary expenditure of costs and attorneys' fees, this action is hereby stayed to provide the parties time to complete the VDRP session. No later than five (5) days after completion of the VDRP session, the parties shall file a joint statement indicating whether a settlement was reached.
- 4. The parties shall complete the VDRP session no later than July 23, 2018. The court hereby resets the Status (Pretrial Scheduling) Conference for August 27, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 5, 14th Floor. If a settlement is not reached through VDRP, the parties shall submit an Amended Joint Status Report no later than August 13, 2018.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: May 16, 2018

WILLIAM B. SHUBB

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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