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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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RAFAEL ARROYO, JR.,
Plaintiff,

v.

KARIM MEHRABI; STARS HOLDING
CO. LLC, a California Limited
Liability Company; and Does
1-10,

Defendants.

No. 2:19-cv-1147-WBS-CKD
ORDER

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The court previously referred this case to the court's
Voluntary Dispute Resolution Program ("VDRP"). (Docket No. 21.)
While the parties scheduled mediation for March 18, 2020, that
mediation did not occur due to disruptions caused by COVID-19,
and the parties still have not been able to participate in
mediation. The parties have jointly requested referral of this
case to VDRP for video mediation with their previously assigned
mediator, James E. Houpt, with mediation to be completed within

1 120 days. (Docket No. 32.) Accordingly, the court orders as
2 follows:

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

9 2. Because of the disruptions caused by COVID-19, the
10 parties may participate in mediation via videoconference.

11 3. The parties shall complete the VDRP session no
12 later than January 4, 2021. The court hereby resets the Status
13 (Pretrial Scheduling) Conference for February 1, 2021. If a
14 settlement is not reached through VDRP, the parties shall submit
15 an Amended Joint Status Report no later than January 19, 2021.

16 IT IS SO ORDERED.

17 Dated: September 2, 2020



18 **WILLIAM B. SHUBB**
19 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**

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