

United States District Court
Northern District of California

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

TION ALONZO HILL, SR.,
Plaintiff,
v.
ARNOLD STAR, et al.,
Defendant.

Case No. [09-cv-05434-TEH](#)

**ORDER FOR PRETRIAL
PREPARATION**

Good cause appearing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. TRIAL DATE

Trial before the JURY will begin in Courtroom No. 2 on **Tuesday, June 9, 2015, at 9:00 AM.** If the Court advises counsel that they must be prepared to go to trial on a trailing basis, then the trial will begin as soon after the scheduled date as possible. The trial shall last for an estimated **4** trial days. The trial of liability and damages issues SHALL NOT be separate.

2. PRETRIAL CONFERENCE

The Court will hold a pretrial conference on **Monday, May 18, 2015, at 3:00 PM.** **Counsel who intend to try the case must attend the pretrial conference.**

3. DISCOVERY.

(a) **Discovery Cutoff.** All discovery, except for depositions of expert witnesses, shall be completed on or before **N/A.** All depositions of expert witnesses shall be completed no later than 7 calendar days before the pretrial conference.

(b) **Disclosures Regarding Expert Witnesses.** Plaintiff and Defendants shall comply with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2)(A) (i.e., disclose the identity of any

1 person who may be used at trial to present expert testimony). The parties shall comply with
2 the written report requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2)(B). Failure to
3 comply with these deadlines will prevent a witness from testifying as an expert.

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5 **4. PRETRIAL CONFERENCE STATEMENT.**

6 (a) **Required Meeting and Disclosure Prior to Pretrial Conference.** Lead
7 counsel who will try the case shall meet and confer on or before **April 27, 2015**, or as soon
8 as practicable thereafter. At that time, they shall discuss:

- 9 (1) Prospects for settling the action;
10 (2) The preparation and content of the joint pretrial conference statement;
11 (3) The preparation and exchange of pretrial materials to be served and
12 lodged with the Court; and
13 (4) Resolution of any differences between the parties regarding items (2)
14 and (3) above. To the extent such differences are not resolved, the parties must present the
15 issues in the joint pretrial conference statement so that the Judge may rule on the disputes
16 at the pretrial conference.

17 Within one week after meeting and conferring, the parties shall file a joint
18 statement, signed by all counsel, stating that they have met and conferred on the above
19 issues.

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21 (b) **Joint Pretrial Conference Statement.** The parties shall file a joint pretrial
22 conference statement no later than 10 calendar days before the pretrial conference. If the
23 parties disagree over the wording of the statement, each party may state its position in its
24 own words. All parties or their counsel must sign the statement. The statement shall
25 contain the following information:

- 26 (1) **The Action.**
27 (A) **Substance of the Action.** A brief description of the substance of
28 claims and defenses that remain to be decided.

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(B) Relief Prayed. A detailed statement of the relief claimed, including an itemization of all claimed damages, along with a list of witnesses, documents, or other evidentiary material to be presented on the amount of damages.

(2) The Factual Basis of the Action.

(A) Undisputed Facts. A plain and concise statement of all relevant facts not reasonably disputable. This should include a statement of facts which the parties stipulate may be incorporated into the trial record without supporting testimony or exhibits.

(B) Disputed Factual Issues. A plain and concise statement of all disputed factual issues that remain to be decided.

(C) Agreed Statement. A statement assessing whether all or part of the action may be presented upon an agreed statement of facts.

(D) Stipulations. A statement of stipulations requested or proposed for pretrial or trial purposes.

(3) Trial Preparation.

(A) Estimate of Trial Time. An estimate of the number of court days needed for the presentation of each party’s case, indicating possible reductions in time through proposed stipulations, agreed statements of facts, or expedited means of presenting testimony and exhibits.

(B) Witnesses to be Called. A list of all witnesses likely to be called at trial, other than solely for impeachment or rebuttal, together with a brief statement following each name describing the substance of the testimony to be given. Parties must indicate any objections to the use of the listed witnesses and shall certify that counsel have met and conferred regarding such objections. No party shall be permitted to call any witness in their case in chief that is not disclosed in the pretrial conference statement unless the Court grants leave for good cause shown.

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(C) Use of Discovery Responses. A list of evidence that may be presented at trial, other than solely for impeachment or rebuttal, through use of excerpts from depositions, interrogatory answers, or responses to requests for admission. Parties must indicate any objections to use of these materials and shall certify that counsel have met and conferred regarding such objections.

(D) Exhibits, Schedules, and Summaries. A list of all documents and other items to be offered as exhibits at the trial, other than solely for impeachment or rebuttal, with a brief statement following each item describing its substance or purpose and the identity of its sponsoring witness. The statement shall include a list of all exhibits that the parties agree may be admitted into evidence. Parties must indicate any objections to the receipt in evidence of the listed exhibits and shall certify that counsel have met and conferred regarding such objections. No party shall be permitted to introduce any exhibit in their case in chief that is not disclosed in the pretrial conference statement unless the Court grants leave for good cause shown.

(E) Further Discovery or Motions. A statement of all outstanding discovery or motions, including motions in limine.

(4) Trial Alternatives and Options.

(A) Settlement Discussion. A statement summarizing the status of settlement negotiations and indicating whether further negotiations are likely to be productive.

(B) Consent to Trial Before a Magistrate Judge. A statement explaining whether reference of all or part of the action to a special master or magistrate judge is feasible, including whether the parties consent to a court or jury trial before a magistrate judge with appeal directly to the Ninth Circuit.

(C) Amendments or Dismissals. A statement of requested or proposed amendments to pleadings or dismissals of parties, claims, or defenses.

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(D) **Bifurcation of Issues.** A statement of whether bifurcation (i.e., separate trials) of specific issues is feasible and desired.

(5) **Miscellaneous.** Any other subjects relevant to the just, speedy, and inexpensive resolution of this action.

(c) **Pretrial Order.** The Court may, as appropriate, make pretrial orders at or following the pretrial conference. Such orders shall control the subsequent course of the action as provided in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16.

5. TRIAL PREPARATION DEADLINES.

(a) **Motions in Limine.** The only appropriate purpose for a motion in limine is to obtain, in advance of trial, an evidentiary ruling on the admissibility of a specific piece of evidence. Unless otherwise allowed by the Court, all motions in limine shall be filed no later than 21 calendar days before the scheduled trial date, and written opposition to such motions shall be filed no later than 14 calendar days before the trial date. **All motions in limine must be accompanied by a declaration stating that counsel have met and conferred in good faith regarding the motions prior to their filing, and that the parties are unable to resolve informally any remaining disputes.**

(b) **Exhibits.** Two sets of all exhibits to be offered at trial, together with a list of exhibits, shall be lodged with the Court no later than 7 calendar days before the scheduled trial date. Exhibits must be placed in three-ring binders of no more than three inches each and must be pre-marked in accordance with the attached forms.

(c) **Objections to Evidence.** Counsel shall meet and confer with respect to any evidentiary objections in advance of the pretrial conference. They shall advise the Court at the pretrial conference if any objections contained in their joint pretrial conference

1 statement have been subsequently resolved.

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3 (d) **Jury Instructions.** If a jury trial has been demanded, the parties shall meet and
4 confer to discuss proposed jury instructions. The Court uses its own set of standard
5 instructions regarding the role of jurors, organization of the jury, communication with the
6 Court, etc., and the parties need not discuss such instructions during their meeting and
7 conferring. No later than 10 calendar days before the pretrial conference, the parties shall
8 file (a) proposed jury instructions upon which all parties have agreed and (b) jury
9 instructions upon which any other party does not agree. The proposed jury instructions
10 must be accompanied by a declaration stating that the parties have met and conferred in
11 good faith in an attempt to agree upon as many jury instructions as possible. The
12 chambers copies of all proposed jury instructions shall be accompanied by an electronic
13 copy of the instructions in Word or Word Perfect format.

14 For each disputed instruction, the offering party shall indicate the corresponding
15 instruction(s), if any, being proposed by other parties. The parties shall file written
16 objections to all disputed instructions no later than 7 calendar days before the scheduled
17 trial date.

18 All proposed jury instructions shall be concise and free from argument; cover only
19 one subject to be indicated in the caption; show the identity of the offering party; be
20 typewritten out in full on a separate page or pages; be consecutively numbered; and set
21 forth specific citations to supporting authority. Case citations must include pinpoint
22 citations to the exact page or pages that support the proposed instruction.

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24 (e) **Voir Dire.** If a jury trial has been demanded, the parties may, at their option,
25 submit proposed questions for voir dire. Any such questions must be filed no later than 10
26 calendar days before the pretrial conference.

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28 (f) **Special Verdict Forms.** If a jury trial has been demanded, the parties shall

1 meet and confer to discuss any desired special verdict forms. The parties shall follow the
2 procedure outlined in paragraph 6(d) in filing their proposed verdict forms.

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4 **6. TRANSCRIPTS.** Arrangements must be made with the Courtroom Deputy at least
5 14 calendar days before the scheduled trial date if the parties desire daily transcripts and/or
6 realtime reporting.

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8 **7. SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE.** The parties SHALL arrange for a mandatory
9 settlement conference before Magistrate Judge **Nandor J. Vadas** of this Court. This
10 conference shall be scheduled to take place no later than 5 calendar days before the pretrial
11 conference.

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13 **8. PROCEDURE FOR AMENDING THIS ORDER.** No provision of this order
14 may be changed except by written order of this Court. The Court may enter such an order
15 upon its own motion or upon motion of one or more of the parties. The parties must make
16 any such motion in accordance with the Civil Local Rules and with a demonstration of
17 very good cause. The mere fact that the parties have stipulated to a change does not
18 constitute good cause, nor does a conflict with a court date set after the date of this order.

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20 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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22 Dated: 4/20/2015



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24 **THELTON E. HENDERSON**
United States District Judge

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1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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4 CASE NO. C - TEH DATE:
5 _____ v. _____

6 EXHIBIT LIST

7 () Plaintiff

() Defendant

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9 EXHIBIT NUMBER	MARKED	ADMITTED	DESCRIPTION OF EXHIBIT
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Case No. _____ PLTF Exhibit No. <u>1</u> Date Admitted _____ Signature _____	Case No. _____ DEFT Exhibit No. <u>A</u> Date Admitted _____ Signature _____
Case No. _____ PLTF Exhibit No. <u>2</u> Date Admitted _____ Signature _____	Case No. _____ DEFT Exhibit No. <u>B</u> Date Admitted _____ Signature _____
Case No. _____ PLTF Exhibit No. <u>3</u> Date Admitted _____ Signature _____	Case No. _____ DEFT Exhibit No. <u>C</u> Date Admitted _____ Signature _____
Case No. _____ PLTF Exhibit No. <u>4</u> Date Admitted _____ Signature _____	Case No. _____ DEFT Exhibit No. <u>D</u> Date Admitted _____ Signature _____
Case No. _____ PLTF Exhibit No. <u>5</u> Date Admitted _____ Signature _____	Case No. _____ DEFT Exhibit No. <u>E</u> Date Admitted _____ Signature _____
Case No. _____ PLTF Exhibit No. <u>6</u> Date Admitted _____ Signature _____	Case No. _____ DEFT Exhibit No. <u>F</u> Date Admitted _____ Signature _____