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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

DWIGHT C. BELTON, P-04485,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff(s),	)	No. C 11-6360 CRB (PR)
	)	
v.	)	ORDER
	)	
R. GROUNDS, Warden, et al.,	)	(Docket # 29 & 30)
	)	
Defendant(s).	)	


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Plaintiff's motion (docket # 29) for an order compelling answers to certain interrogatories is DENIED. The court will not entertain discovery motions unless the parties first comply with the meet-and-confer requirements of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Court's Local Rules. See, e.g., Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(a) (motion to compel must include a certification that the movant has in good faith conferred or attempted to confer with the party not making the disclosure in an effort to secure the disclosure without court action); Civ. L. R. 37-1 (same). In view of plaintiff's incarceration, the parties may satisfy the meet-and-confer requirements by letter or telephone conversation. Cf. Civil L. R. 1-5(n) ("meet and confer" or "confer" means to communicate directly and discuss in good faith the issue(s); mere sending of a written, electronic or voice-mail communication does not satisfy a requirement to "meet and confer" or to "confer;" requirement can be satisfied only through direct dialogue and discussion – either in a face to face meeting or in a telephone conversation).

1                   And for essentially the same reasons, plaintiff's accompanying request  
2 (docket # 30) for entry of default based on defendants' alleged failure to respond  
3 to his interrogatories is DENIED without prejudice.

4 SO ORDERED.

5 DATED: August 10, 2012

  
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6 CHARLES R. BREYER  
7 United States District Judge  
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