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United States District Court
Northern District of California

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

DANIEL RODRIGUEZ,
Plaintiff.
v.
COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA, et al.,
Defendants.

Case No. [13-cv-02516-JSC](#)

PRETRIAL ORDER

Following the Case Management Conference held on February 13, 2014, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

I. CASE MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE

- Fact Discovery Cut-Off: October 31, 2014
- Deadline for Expert Disclosures: November 21, 2014
- Deadline for Expert Rebuttal Disclosures: December 5, 2014
- Expert Discovery Cut-Off: January 9, 2015
- Deadline for Hearing Dispositive Motions: February 27, 2015

The Court further orders the parties to attend mediation with the Court's ADR program no earlier than June 13, 2014 and no later than August 12, 2014. The matter is also referred to a magistrate judge for a settlement conference to occur between March and April of 2015.

II. TRIAL DATE

- A. Jury trial will begin on June 15, 2015, at 8:30 a.m., in Courtroom F, 15th Floor, U.S. District Court, 450 Golden Gate, San Francisco, California.
- B. The Court is expecting the length of the trial to not exceed six court days.

1 **III. PRETRIAL CONFERENCE**

2 A Final Pretrial Conference shall be held on May 28, 2015, at 2:00 p.m., in Courtroom F,
3 15th Floor. Lead trial counsel for each party shall attend.

4 A. At least seven days prior to date of the Final Pretrial Conference the parties shall do
5 the following:

6 1. In lieu of preparing a Joint Pretrial Conference Statement, the parties shall
7 meet and confer in person, and then prepare and file a jointly signed Proposed Final Pretrial Order
8 that contains: (a) a brief description of the substance of claims and defenses which remain to be
9 decided; (b) a statement of all relief sought; (c) all stipulated facts; (d) a joint exhibit list in
10 numerical order, including a brief description of the exhibit and Bates numbers, a blank column for
11 when it will be offered into evidence, a blank column for when it may be received into evidence,
12 and a blank column for any limitations on its use; and (e) each party’s separate witness list for its
13 case-in-chief witnesses (including those appearing by deposition), including, for all such witnesses
14 (other than party plaintiffs or defendants), a short statement of the substance of his/her testimony
15 and, separately, what, if any, non-cumulative testimony the witness will offer. For each witness,
16 state an hour/minute time estimate for the direct examination (only). Items (d) and (e) should be
17 submitted as appendices to the proposed order. The proposed order should also state which issues, if
18 any, are for the Court to decide, rather than the jury.

19 2. File a joint set of proposed instructions on substantive issues of law arranged
20 in a logical sequence. If undisputed, an instruction shall be identified as “Stipulated Instruction No.
21 ____ Re _____,” with the blanks filled in as appropriate. If disputed, each version of the
22 instruction shall be inserted together, back to back, in their logical place in the overall sequence.
23 Each such disputed instruction shall be identified as, for example, “Disputed Instruction No. ____
24 Re _____ Offered by _____,” with the blanks filled in as appropriate. All
25 disputed versions of the same basic instruction shall bear the same number. Any modifications to a
26 form instruction must be plainly identified. If a party does not have a counter version and simply
27 contends that no such instruction in any version should be given, then that party should so state (and
28 explain why) on a separate page inserted in lieu of an alternate version. With respect to form

1 preliminary instructions, general instructions, or concluding instructions, please simply cite to the
2 numbers of the requested instructions in the current edition of the Ninth Circuit Model Jury
3 Instructions. Other than citing the numbers, the parties shall not include preliminary, general, or
4 concluding instructions in the packet.

5 3. File a separate memorandum of law in support of each party’s disputed
6 instructions, if any, organized by instruction number.

7 4. File a joint set of proposed voir dire questions supplemented as necessary by
8 separate requests.

9 5. File trial briefs on any controlling issues of law.

10 6. File proposed verdict forms, joint or separate.

11 7. File and serve any objections to exhibits.

12 8. File a joint simplified Statement of the Case to be read to the jury during voir
13 dire as part of the proposed jury instructions. Unless the case is extremely complex, this statement
14 should not exceed one page.

15 B. Any motions in limine shall be submitted as follows: at least twenty (20) calendar
16 days before the conference, the moving party shall serve, but not file, the opening brief. At least ten
17 (10) calendar days before the conference, the responding party shall serve the opposition. There will
18 be no reply. When the oppositions are received, the moving party should collate the motion and the
19 opposition together, back-to-back, and then file the paired sets at least seven (7) calendar days
20 before the conference. Each motion should be presented in a separate memorandum and properly
21 identified, for example, “Plaintiff’s Motion in Limine No. 1 to Exclude” Each party is limited
22 to bringing five motions in limine. The parties are encouraged to stipulate where possible, for
23 example, as to the exclusion of witnesses from the courtroom. Each motion should address a single,
24 separate topic, and contain no more than seven pages of briefing per side.

25 C. Hard-copy courtesy copies of the above documents shall be delivered by NOON the
26 day after filing. The Joint Proposed Final Pretrial Order, jury instructions, and verdict form shall be
27 submitted via e-mail as attachments to JSCpo@cand.uscourts.gov. The Court requests that all hard-
28 copy submissions be three-hole-punched.

1 **IV. PRETRIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

2 A. Should a daily transcript and/or real-time reporting be desired, the parties shall make
3 arrangements with Debra Campbell, Supervisor of the Court Reporting Services, at (415) 522-2079,
4 at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the trial date.

5 B. During trial, counsel may wish to use overhead projectors, laser-disk/computer
6 graphics, poster blow-ups, models, or specimens of devices. Equipment should be shared by all
7 counsel to the maximum extent possible. The Court provides no equipment other than an easel. The
8 United States Marshal requires a court order to allow equipment into the courthouse. For electronic
9 equipment, parties should be prepared to maintain the equipment or have a technician handy at all
10 times. The parties shall tape extension cords to the carpet for safety. The parties may work with the
11 deputy clerk, Ada Means (415-522-2015), on all courtroom-layout issues.

12 **SCHEDULING**

13 Trial will be conducted from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 or 3:00 p.m., depending on the availability of
14 witnesses, Monday through Friday. Counsel must arrive by 8:15 a.m., or earlier as needed, for any
15 matters to be heard out of the presence of the jury. The jury will be called at 8:30 a.m.

16 **THE JURY**

17 In civil cases, there are no alternate jurors and the jury is selected as follows:
18 Eighteen to twenty jurors are called to fill the jury box and the row in front of the bar, and are given
19 numbers (1 through 18). The remaining potential jurors will be seated in the public benches.
20 Hardship excuses will usually be considered at this point. The Court will then ask questions of those
21 in the box and in the front of the bar. Counsel may then conduct a limited voir dire. Challenges for
22 cause will then be addressed out of the presence of the potential jurors. The Court will consider
23 whether to fill in the seats of the stricken jurors. If so, questions will be asked of the additional
24 jurors and cause motions as to them will be considered. After a short recess, each side may exercise
25 its allotment of peremptory challenges out of the presence of the potential jurors. The eight (or such
26 other size as will constitute the jury) surviving the challenge process with the lowest numbers
27 become the final jury. For example, if the plaintiff strikes 1, 5, and 7 and the defendant strikes 2, 4,
28 and 9, then 3, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 become the final jury. If more (or fewer) than eight jurors

1 are to be seated, then the starting number will be adjusted. So too if more than a total of six
2 peremptories are allowed. Once the jury selection is completed, the jurors' names will be read again
3 and they will be seated in the jury box and sworn. The Court may alter this procedure in its
4 discretion and after consultation with the parties.

5 **WITNESSES**

6 At the close of each trial day, all counsel shall exchange a list of witnesses for the
7 next two full court days and the exhibits that will be used during direct examination (other than for
8 impeachment of an adverse witness). Within 24 hours of such notice, all other counsel shall provide
9 any objections to such exhibits and shall provide a list of all exhibits to be used with the same
10 witness on cross-examination (other than for impeachment). The first notice shall be exchanged
11 prior to the first day of trial. All such notices shall be provided in writing.

12 **EXHIBITS**

13 A. Prior to the Final Pretrial Conference, counsel must meet and confer in person to
14 consider all exhibit numbers and objections and to eliminate duplicate exhibits and confusion over
15 the precise exhibit.

16 B. Use numbers only, not letters, for exhibits, preferably the same numbers as were
17 used in depositions. Blocks of numbers should be assigned to fit the need of the case (e.g., Plaintiff
18 has 1 to 100, Defendant A has 101 to 200, Defendant B has 201 to 300, etc.). A single exhibit
19 should be marked only once. If the plaintiff has marked an exhibit, then the defendant should not re-
20 mark the exact document with another number. Different versions of the same document, e.g., a
21 copy with additional handwriting, must be treated as different exhibits with different numbers. To
22 avoid any party claiming "ownership" of an exhibit, all exhibits shall be marked and referred to as
23 "Trial Exhibit No. _____," not as "Plaintiff's Exhibit" or "Defendant's Exhibit."

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C. The exhibit tag shall be in the following form:

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
TRIAL EXHIBIT 100
Case No. _____
Date Entered _____
By _____ Deputy Clerk

Counsel preferably will make the tag up in a color that will stand out (yet still allow for photocopying), but that is not essential. Place the tag on or near the lower right-hand corner or, if a photograph, on the back. Counsel should fill in the tag but leave the last two spaces blank. The parties must jointly prepare a single set of all trial exhibits that will be the official record set to be used with the witnesses and on appeal. Each exhibit must be tagged, three-hole-punched, separated with a label divider identifying the exhibit number, and placed in 3-ring binders. Spine labels should indicate the numbers of the exhibits that are in the binders. Each set of exhibit binders should be marked as “Original.” Deposit the exhibits with the deputy clerk seven (7) days before the Pretrial Conference.

D. Counsel must consult with each other and with the deputy clerk at the end of each trial day and compare notes as to which exhibits are in evidence and any limitations thereon. If there are any differences, counsel should bring them promptly to the Court’s attention.

E. In addition to the official record exhibits, two sets of bench binders containing copies of the exhibits must be provided to the Court seven (7) days before the Pretrial Conference, one should be marked as “Chambers Copies” and the other as “Clerk’s Copies.” Each exhibit must be separated with a label divider identifying the exhibit number. (An exhibit tag is unnecessary for the bench set.) Spine labels should indicate the numbers of the exhibits that are in the binders.

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F. Before the closing arguments, counsel must confer with the deputy clerk to make sure the exhibits in evidence are in good order.

G. Exhibit notebooks for the jury will not be permitted without prior permission from the Court. Publication must be by poster blow-up, overhead projection, or such other method as is allowed in the circumstances. It is permissible to highlight, circle or underscore in the enlargements as long as it is clear that it was not on the original.

CHARGING CONFERENCE

As the trial progresses and the evidence is heard, the Court will fashion a comprehensive set of jury instructions to cover all issues actually being tried. Prior to the close of the evidence, the Court will provide a draft final charge to the parties. After a reasonable period for review, one or more charging conferences will be held at which each party may object to any passage, ask for modifications, or ask for additions. Any instruction request must be renewed specifically at the conference or it will be deemed waived, whether or not it was requested prior to trial. If, however, a party still wishes to request an omitted instruction after reviewing the Court's draft, then it must affirmatively re-request it at the charging conference in order to give the Court a fair opportunity to correct any error. Otherwise, as stated, the request will be deemed abandoned or waived.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: March 3, 2014



JACQUELINE SCOTT CORLEY
United States Magistrate Judge