

United States District Court  
Northern District of California

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

REFUGIO NIETO, et al.,  
Plaintiffs,  
v.  
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN  
FRANCISCO, et al.,  
Defendants.

Case No. [14-cv-03823 NC](#)  
**PRETRIAL PREPARATION ORDER**

A jury trial is scheduled in this case on March 1, 2016, in Courtroom D in the San Francisco courthouse. This order prepares for the trial. A pretrial conference is scheduled for February 3, 2016, at 2:00 p.m. in Courtroom D, San Francisco. The trial preparation standing order is available on the Court’s website. Where the dates outlined below are inconsistent with the standing order, the dates in this order should be followed.

**I. MOTIONS IN LIMINE**

The parties must file their motions in limine by January 20, 2016, with responses due by January 27, 2016. No party may file a reply without leave of Court. The total number of pages each party submits for all motions and all responses must not exceed 15 pages. While it is up to each party to decide how much space to allocate for their motions and how much for their responses, the parties must each stay within the 15-page limit (e.g., a party can allocate 9 pages for their motions, and 6 pages for their responses). The Court will hold a hearing on the motions in limine at the pretrial conference.

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1     **II.     JOINT TRIAL READINESS BINDER**

2             The parties are ordered to provide the Court with two copies of a Joint Trial  
3     Readiness Binder. The documents and binder are due by January 27, 2016 at 12 p.m. at  
4     the **San Jose Courthouse**. The parties must also file a copy of the Joint Trial Readiness  
5     Binder in ECF. The Joint Trial Readiness Binders must contain an index and copies of  
6     filed documents with the ECF header reflecting the item’s docket number and filing date,  
7     including:

8                     **A. Proposed Order Re: Trial Stipulations**

9             The Court expects that the parties will agree to a variety of stipulations regarding  
10     the conduct of the trial. A proposed order outlining all such stipulations must be presented  
11     to the Court.

12                     **B. Witness Lists**

13             The parties must submit an updated list of all witnesses likely to be called at trial  
14     (other than solely for impeachment or rebuttal), with a brief statement following each  
15     name describing the substance of the testimony to be given and a time estimate of the  
16     direct and cross examinations. This information must be presented in chart format and  
17     organized by party. Witnesses who will be testifying as experts should be identified as  
18     such and included in a separate expert witness list (see below).

19                     **C. Expert Witness Lists**

20             The parties must submit an updated list of all expert witnesses with a summary  
21     which must clearly describe the expert’s theories and conclusions; a curriculum vitae; and  
22     expert reports. Witnesses not included on the list may be excluded from testifying.

23                     **D. Updated Exhibit Lists Annotated with Stipulations/Objections**

24             The parties must submit an updated list of all documents and other items to be  
25     offered as exhibits at the trial (other than solely for impeachment or rebuttal), with a brief  
26     description of each exhibit’s contents, and the identify of each sponsoring witness. As  
27     applicable, the exhibit list must specify whether the parties stipulate to admit the exhibit or  
28     the grounds for any objections to the exhibit. The exhibit list must also include an

1 additional column so that the Court can track the date on which each exhibit is admitted.  
2 Prior to submitting the list, the parties must meet and confer and attempt to stipulate as to  
3 the admissibility of each exhibit. This information must be presented in chart format and  
4 organized numerically.

5 **E. Updated List of Discovery Excerpts**

6 The parties must list those excerpts from depositions, from interrogatory answers,  
7 or from responses to requests for admission (other than those solely for impeachment or  
8 rebuttal) likely to be used as trial. Prior to submitting the list, the parties must meet and  
9 confer and attempt to resolve any disagreements regarding designations or counter-  
10 designations. The parties must (i) identify any remaining legal objections to the excerpts  
11 on the list itself, and (ii) attach in a separate appendix copies of the disputed excerpts so  
12 that the Court can review the disputed materials. The parties must provide a single  
13 proposed order with each disputed designation which will allow the Court to rule on  
14 whether permission to use each is granted, granted with modification, or denied.

15 **F. Voir Dire Questions**

16 The parties must include any proposed jury questionnaire or questions for the court-  
17 directed voir dire, if applicable. If any questions are contested, each party must state the  
18 basis for proposing or opposing the question.

19 **III. ELECTRONIC COPIES OF TRIAL DOCUMENTS**

20 The parties must send an electronic copy in Word format to  
21 [ncpo@cand.uscourts.gov](mailto:ncpo@cand.uscourts.gov) of the following documents listed above: (i) Proposed Order Re:  
22 Trial Stipulations; and (ii) Proposed Order Re: Discovery Excerpts.

23 **IV. STIPULATIONS RE: ADMISSIBILITY**

24 The parties must make a good faith effort to stipulate to exhibits' admissibility. If  
25 stipulation is not possible, the parties must make every effort to stipulate to authenticity  
26 and foundation absent a legitimate objection.

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1     **V.     EXHIBITS**

2             Exhibits must be provided to the Court by January 27, 2016 at 12:00 p.m. at the **San**  
3     **Jose Courthouse** as follows: two sets of exhibits marked, tabbed, indexed, and to be  
4     provided in binders. Exhibit sets may be delivered/mailed directly to Chambers in San  
5     Jose. The parties must otherwise coordinate with the Courtroom Deputy for other  
6     delivery.

7             Each exhibit must be pre-marked with an exhibit tag placed in the top right corner  
8     of the first page of a document. Parties are to use a color other than white for the exhibit  
9     tags. A page of blank trial exhibit tags can be found on the Court’s website. If an exhibit  
10    is a physical object (rather than a document), a picture should be taken and placed in the  
11    binder.

12            Upon the conclusion of the trial, each party must retain its exhibit through the  
13    appellate process. It is each party’s responsibility to make arrangement with the Clerk of  
14    Court to file the record on appeal.

15     **VI.    SCHEDULING OF JURY SELECTION**

16            The parties must notify the Court whether they wish to proceed with a jury or bench  
17    trial by January 27. If the parties decide to proceed with a jury trial, the jury will be  
18    selected March 1. Opening statements will be on March 1 after jury selection. The first  
19    witness will be called on March 2.

20     **VII.   JURY INSTRUCTIONS**

21            If applicable, the parties must submit jointly to the Court via email in Word format  
22    to [ncpo@cand.uscourts.gov](mailto:ncpo@cand.uscourts.gov) a set of jury instructions by January 27. If any instructions are  
23    contested, each party must state the legal basis for proposing or opposing the instructions.

24     **VIII.   SUMMARY OF CASE STATEMENT**

25            By January 27, the parties must jointly submit an agreed-upon summary of the case,  
26    not to exceed one page. This statement of the case will be read to the jury at jury selection.  
27    If the parties cannot agree on such a statement, each party must submit its own summary,  
28    not to exceed one page.

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**IX. TRIAL LIMITS**

The Court anticipates giving each side a total of 15 hours to present its case. This includes all aspects of trial (e.g., objections, examinations) except jury selection.

**X. SETTLEMENT**

This case has been referred to Magistrate Judge James for settlement. If the parties wish to schedule a further settlement conference, they must contact her courtroom deputy by December 7, 2015, to schedule the conference.

**XI. MISCELLANEOUS**

**Witness Photographs**

The Court may take a photograph of each witness prior to the witness' testimony to assist the trier of fact with recalling the testimony. Please advise your witnesses.

**Electronic Equipment**

If a party wishes to use electronic equipment or other large items (such as bookshelves), the party must file a request and proposed order with the Court by January 27.

Equipment not provided by the Court must be tested in the courtroom prior to the day when it will be used. Arrangements may be made with the Courtroom Deputy, Lili Harrell at (408) 535-5343, as to an appropriate time for doing so.

**Questions from Jury**

If the parties select a jury trial, the Court will give an instruction to allow questions from the jury in accordance with Ninth Circuit Model Instruction 1.15 ("Questions to Witnesses by Jurors").

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

Dated: November 24, 2015

  
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NATHANAEL M. COUSINS  
United States Magistrate Judge