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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

DARYL LOWRY;)	Civil Nos. 09-CV-882-BTM(WVG)
)	09-CV-898-BTM(WVG)
Plaintiff,)	09-CV-1141-BTM(WVG)
)	
v.)	ORDER FOLLOWING DISCOVERY
)	HEARING
HERITAGE SECURITY, et al.,)	
)	
Defendants.)	
_____)	
)	
AND RELATED CASES.)	
_____)	

A discovery hearing was held on the record on March 25, 2011, at 2:00 p.m. Plaintiff *in pro per* appeared in person. Counsel for Defendants appeared telephonically as allowed by the Court's previous Order.

I. Orders Following Discovery Conference

The purpose of the discovery hearing was to referee a discovery dispute in which Defendants sought to compel answers to some of their written interrogatories. Upon considering the interrogatories and Plaintiff's three sets of responses, and for good cause shown at the hearing, Plaintiff is ORDERED to respond to the following interrogatories by April 1, 2011: Special Interroga-

1 tory Nos. 14 and 18 in the 09-CV-898-BTM(WVG) case and Special
2 Interrogatory No. 4 in the 11-CV-1141-BTM(WVG) case. Plaintiff was
3 provided direction on how to respond to these interrogatories during
4 the hearing before the Court.

5 **II. Orders Regarding Plaintiff's Behavior**

6 In the process of refereeing the discovery dispute, it came
7 to light that Plaintiff continues to engage in the type of obstrep-
8 erous and harassing conduct towards defense counsel that he has
9 exhibited, and indeed been warned about by the Court, in the past.
10 This conduct manifests itself in multiple forms, which the Court
11 detailed in the hearing and some of which the Court further
12 highlights below.

13 First, Plaintiff's behavior manifests itself in flippant,
14 argumentative responses to discovery requests. Defendants submitted
15 Plaintiff's original discovery responses along with two supplemental
16 responses after Defendants' meet and confer letters. All three sets
17 of responses demonstrate that Plaintiff not only failed to meaning-
18 fully respond to certain interrogatories, but he also used each set
19 of responses as a forum to direct argumentative and personal
20 comments to defense counsel. Some choice representative examples
21 include:^{1/}

- 22 • Find the phone numbers yourself-lawyers
- 23 • You will see both papers from U.C.S.D. and Scripps
24 Hospital . . . you better come with an offer before
25 the 15th of March or if I have to wait until July
26 27th at 2:00pm it doubles, if we go to trial it
triples, and if you are really as dumb as I think
you are and appeal it quadruples and I can and will
do it just try me.

28 ¹ In the interest of avoiding the continuous use of "[sic]," the Court notes at the outset that these examples are direct quotes and appear as written.

- 1 • Look at U.C.S.D. paper that I sent to you it will
2 tell everything and if you notice at the top of the
3 paper BTM [J]udge Moskowitz has a copy of this to
4 • What I'm sending back to you and also a copy to both
5 Judges for Which Metropolitan Transit has failed to
6 do anything at all, so here what going to come of
7 this I'm filing a motion to compel in which they
8 have not sent me anything at all, and they think
9 this is going away, wrong this is what's about to
10 happen to Metropolitan Transit Attorney thinks that
11 I'm going to play there game in which I don't. I'm
12 going to cheat just like you do even better.
- 13 • This is all your getting from me move on I don't
14 have to give you anything else unless you ask for a
15 deposition in person in which your not going to get,
16 just tell owner of heritage security to give it up
17 or I going to take his company.

18 Second, Plaintiff's behavior manifests itself in aggressive,
19 confrontational, and at times threatening interactions with defense
20 counsel. For example, it further came to light that Plaintiff
21 continues to leave quasi-threatening, profanity-laced telephone
22 messages for defense counsel in a transparent attempt to intimidate
23 counsel and unnecessarily complicate the litigation process. The
24 Court has been aware of Plaintiff's behavior for some time and has
25 previously warned him about his behavior.^{2/} Yet he persists. As
26 just one example of Plaintiff's unacceptable behavior, counsel
27 submitted the following transcribed telephone message left by
28 Plaintiff on March 16, 2011:

29 _____

30 2 The Court has also warned Plaintiff against *ex parte* communications with the Court, yet
31 Plaintiff has continued to leave rambling voicemail messages for the Court on at least five
32 separate occasions since he was warned against doing so on January 6, 2011. Although
33 parties may contact the Court *ex parte* for administrative reasons such as obtaining motion
34 hearing dates, Plaintiff's telephone calls are of a markedly different nature. He chooses
35 to leave long messages regarding his assessment of his cases and his future case strategy.
36 He often does not request anything besides a return call, at which time he again repeats
37 the content of his messages. He does so after court hours, sometimes in the middle of the
38 night, on weekends, or Court holidays, sometimes leaving follow-up messages demanding a
39 return call when the Court has not had the opportunity to even listen to the original
40 message. Not once has Plaintiff contacted the Court for an appropriate purpose. Plaintiff
41 is on notice that the Court will not return his messages in the future unless they are
42 appropriate *ex parte* communications.

1 Hey Sam Sherman. How dumb do you think I am? Man you're
2 stupid, do you know what? Okay, now I want to see all the
3 citations I signed. There was only one. So like I say,
4 and one I didn't sign, and I never did sign it, because it
5 started with a J, which was Jerrod Gresset forged my
6 signature, so I didn't sign nothing. So you know what,
7 here's the deal, I'm gonna fuck you just for that man.
8 You're through, okay? Your season is over with man, I'm
9 telling you. This is fun. I love this shit. Oh man, this
10 is great. You're an idiot man, but it's gonna be fun. I'm
11 gonna fuck you for this. I'm going to the library right
12 now and type this shit up, ask for a motion for summary
13 judgment, and I'm gonna demand [word emphasized] that the
14 judge give me that summary judgment.^{3/} Therefore, I take
15 over the company. Fuck you and the horse you rode in on,
16 okay. Later.

17 At the discovery hearing, the Court read this transcribed
18 message into the record, and Plaintiff confirmed that he indeed had
19 left the message for defense counsel. Such communication is utterly
20 devoid of any discernable productive purpose and is clearly intended
21 to harass the other side. For example, Plaintiff never identified
22 any dispute he genuinely wanted resolved or sought to schedule
23 anything. The Court again warned Plaintiff against such behavior in
24 the future and again does so now. Again, the foregoing is just one
25 example of the type of behavior Plaintiff has consistently exhib-
26 ited, but which the Court documents in writing for the first time
27 now.

28 Plaintiff's consistently aggressive behavior has made
counsel's preparation of Defendants' defense exponentially more
challenging. Yet, artificially-constructed challenges that result
from such behavior have no place in the litigation process.
Challenges in the litigation should flow from the complexity of the
case or from the back and forth between legitimate legal strategy,
not an opposing party's intentionally uncivil behavior. **Plaintiff**

3 While it is of no import to this Order, the Court wishes to disabuse Plaintiff of the notion that he may demand anything from this Court or any other court.

1 is hereby ORDERED to immediately cease and desist all threatening
2 behavior and foul, abusive, or assaultive language towards defense
3 counsel. The Court further ORDERS that all of Plaintiff's future
4 communications with Defendants and their counsel be in written form.
5 Plaintiff may no longer communicate with Defendants or their counsel
6 over the telephone for any reason.

7 **III. Order Regarding Plaintiff's Prosecution of This Case**

8 Moreover, it is becoming increasingly evident that Plaintiff
9 has done little, if anything, to advance his case toward trial or
10 resolution, besides consistently demanding that Defendants pay him
11 millions of dollars. Because the Court sees little indication that
12 Plaintiff has advanced his three lawsuits, **the Court ORDERS**
13 **Plaintiff to move his cases forward in an efficient and civil**
14 **manner.** The Court issues this Order because, as explained below,
15 Plaintiff should be mindful that the Court retains discretion to
16 manage its already jam-packed docket.

17 **IV. The Possibility of Sanctions, Including Dismissal**

18 Plaintiff's *pro se* status does not insulate him from
19 sanctions where sanctions are warranted. See Cook v. Peter Kiewit
20 Sons Co., 775 F.2d 1030, 1037 n.13 (9th Cir. 1985). Therefore, in
21 addition to the verbal admonishments the Court made to Plaintiff on
22 the record, the Court hereby further places Plaintiff on written
23 notice that sanctions, **including dismissal of his lawsuit**, may be
24 imposed for a failure to prosecute this action,^{4/} coupled with
25 obstreperous, dilatory, threatening, abusive, or uncivil behavior,
26 which conduct will constitute a direct violation of this Court's

27 _____
28 4 "Prosecute" means "to follow up or carry forward something undertaken or begun, usually to its completion." <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/prosecute>. Plaintiff must move this case forward.

1 Order to behave in a civil manner. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b); Local
2 Rules 41.1; Chambers v. NASCO, Inc., 501 U.S. 32, 44 (1991) (stating
3 that a court "may act sua sponte to dismiss a suit for failure to
4 prosecute"); Hells Canyon Pres. Council v. U.S. Forest Serv., 403
5 F.3d 683, 689 (9th Cir. 2005) (recognizing that courts may dismiss
6 an action pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b) sua
7 sponte for a plaintiff's failure to prosecute or comply with the
8 rules of civil procedure or the court's orders); Ghazali v. Moran,
9 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9th Cir. 1995) (per curiam) ("Failure to follow a
10 district court's local rules is a proper ground for dismissal.");
11 King v. Atiyeh, 814 F.2d 565, 567 (9th Cir. 1987) ("Pro se litigants
12 must follow the same rules of procedure that govern other liti-
13 gants."); Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of L.A., 782 F.2d 829, 831
14 (9th Cir. 1986) (per curiam) (stating that district courts have
15 inherent power to control their dockets and may impose sanctions
16 including dismissal).

17 Plaintiff should take the foregoing warning to heart.
18 Plaintiff may not wield a lawsuit--here three lawsuits--as a weapon
19 of harassment. The Court will not tolerate such behavior or allow
20 itself to be used as a tool in such a campaign. **Therefore, further**
21 **failure to advance and prosecute all three cases, coupled with**
22 **additional behavior that appears designed solely to harass Defen-**
23 **dants or their counsel, and which renders these three cases as**
24 **nothing more than a one-man campaign to make life miserable for**
25 **others without any other purpose, may result in a variety of**
26 **sanctions, such as monetary sanctions up to and including dismissal**
27 **of all three of Plaintiff's cases, which the undersigned may**
28 **recommend to Judge Moskowitz in the future.**

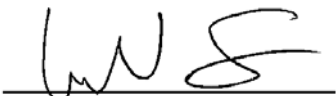
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V. Conclusion

All parties shall act in compliance with this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: March 25, 2011



Hon. William V. Gallo
U.S. Magistrate Judge