Plaintiffs failed to oppose in any fashion the argument that Mr. Brebbia must be disqualified under Rule 1.9(a) as having a conflict of interest. The Court takes that silence as acquiescence that

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disqualification is required under Rule 1.9(a). See Local Rule 7-2(d); see also Newdow v. Congress of the United States of America, 435 F. Supp. 2d 1066, 1070 n.5 (E.D. Cal. 2006), aff'd sub nom., Newdow v. Lefevre, 598 F.3d 638 (9th Cir. 2010). Accordingly, the motion is **GRANTED** in that Mr. Brebbia is found to have a disqualifying conflict pursuant to Rule 1.9(a).

The motion continues on to argue that disqualification of Mr. Brebbia should result in an order requiring his deposition. *See* Docket No. 153 at 10-12. The Court declines to address that issue because it is not properly before the Court and, indeed, Mr. Brebbia's deposition has not been noticed or subpoenaed at this time. *See* Docket No. 156 at 5-6. To the extent Defendants seek Mr. Brebbia's deposition, they must follow the applicable procedures (1) requesting that deposition and, (2) to the extent a dispute arises following such a request, filing an appropriate discovery motion after conducting the required pre-filing conference (or, alternatively, responding to a motion for protective order). Accordingly, the motion is **DENIED** to the extent it relates to the prospective deposition of Mr. Brebbia.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: February 8, 2017

NANCY J. KOPPE

United States Magistrate Judge

¹ The Court expresses no opinion with respect to Rule 3.7, which Plaintiffs do address in their opposition brief.