

1 ANDRÉA L. VIEIRA, ESQ.
 2 Nevada Bar No. 15667
 3 THE VIEIRA FIRM
 4 400 S. 7th St., Ste. 400
 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
 6 Telephone: (702) 820-5853
 7 Facsimile: (702) 820-5836
 8 Andrea@TheVieiraFirm.com
 9 *Court Appointed Pro Bono Attorney for Plaintiff*

7 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
 8 **DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

9 ROSEMARY VANDECAR, an Individual;

10 Plaintiff,

CASE NO.: 2:20-cv-02150-ART-BNW

11 vs.

12 HAROLD WICKHAM, an Individual; GABRIELA
 13 GARCIA-NAJERA, an Individual; RONALD
 14 OLIVER, an Individual; JENNIFER NASH, an
 15 Individual; NICOLE HOLSTON, an Individual;
 16 DWIGHT NEVEN, an Individual; DARIO
 17 SANCHEZ, an Individual; DEAN MEDEIROS, an
 18 Individual; VELASCO, an Individual; KARISSA
 19 CURRIER, an Individual; C. MCGOWAN, an
 20 Individual; MARQUISE L. FRANKLIN, an
 21 Individual; JAMES BAUMGRAS, an Individual;
 22 RIVERA, an Individual; E. ROJAS, an Individual;
 23 ANDREW TRUJILLO, an Individual; NEVADA
 24 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, a political
 25 subdivision of the State of Nevada;

26 Defendants.

27 **MOTION TO EXTEND TIME FOR SERVICE**
 28 **(Second Request)**

29 Plaintiff, ROSEMARY VANDECAR (“Plaintiff”), through her counsel of record, Andréa
 30 L. Vieira, Esq. of THE VIEIRA FIRM, PLLC hereby respectfully moves this Court for an
 31 extension of time to serve Plaintiff’s Third Amended Complaint (ECF No. 42). This is the second
 32 motion to extend time for service.

33 This Motion is made and based on FRCP 4(m), the pleadings and papers on file herein,
 34 the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the Declaration of Andréa L. Vieira, Esq.



1 and any exhibits thereto, and any argument this Court may allow at the time of hearing.

2 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

3 **I. RELEVANT PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

4 This is an inmate civil rights matter brought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Plaintiff,
5 Rosemary Vandecar, filed a complaint in proper person on July 7, 2021.¹

6 On March 10, 2022, an Acceptance of Service on behalf of Defendants Dario Sanchez,
7 A Trujillo, and Harold Wickham was filed.²

8 On June 27, 2022, this Court entered an order that allowed Plaintiff to file a Second
9 Amended Complaint by September 30, 2022.³ On July 8, 2022, undersigned counsel was
10 appointed.⁴

11 On September 30, 2022, the Second Amended Complaint was filed.⁵ Thereafter, the
12 parties entered into a Stipulation to File Third Amended Complaint and Set Deadlines to File
13 Notice of Acceptance of Service and Answer.⁶ On October 21, 2022, this Court entered an Order
14 approving the parties' stipulation.⁷

15 Among other things, this Court's Order required that Defendants file under seal, with
16 service to Plaintiff's counsel, the last known address for any of the named defendants for whom
17 the Office of the Attorney General ("OAG") could accept service.⁸

18 The Third Amended Complaint was filed on October 31, 2022.⁹ On November 21, 2022,
19 Defendants filed their Acceptance of Service¹⁰ (accepting service for every defendant except C
20 McGowan, Maritza Velasco-Avila, Luis Rivera, and Edison Rojas) as well as their Notice of
21 Under Seal Submission.¹¹

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24 ¹ ECF No. 7

25 ² ECF No. 24

26 ³ ECF No. 36

27 ⁴ ECF No. 37

28 ⁵ ECF No. 39

⁶ ECF No. 40

⁷ ECF No. 41

⁸ ECF No. 41, 2:3-8.

⁹ ECF No. 42

¹⁰ ECF No. 43 and 44

¹¹ ECF No. 44



1 The summons for each the remaining defendants for which defense counsel did not
2 accept service were issued on December 21, 2022.¹² On December 27, 2022, Plaintiff requested
3 an additional 90 days to serve defendants Maritza Velasco-Avila, Luis Rivera, and Edison
4 Rojas.¹³ Plaintiff's request was granted on December 28, 2022, and the deadline to serve was
5 extended until March 29, 2023.¹⁴

6 Plaintiff's counsel sent service waivers to all three remaining defendants on January 5,
7 2023.¹⁵ None of the service waivers were returned.¹⁶ Plaintiff's counsel subsequently hired a
8 private investigator, Robert Lawson, to locate and serve the remaining defendants.¹⁷ Mr. Lawson
9 was able to locate and serve Defendant Maritza Velasco-Avila on March 14, 2023¹⁸ and
10 Defendant Luis Rivera on March 15, 2023.¹⁹

11 Mr. Lawson was also able to locate Defendant Edison Rojas, who is now living in
12 Nebraska and working for the Nebraska Department of Corrections.²⁰

13 Plaintiff respectfully requests an additional 30 days to serve Defendant Edison Rojas in
14 Nebraska where he now lives and works.

15 **II. LAW AND ARGUMENT**

16 A complaint must be served within 90 days, but if the plaintiff shows good cause for the
17 failure, the court must extend the time for service for an appropriate period.²¹

18 FRCP 4(m) *requires* a district court to grant an extension of time when the plaintiff shows
19 good cause for the delay and permits the district court to grant an extension in the absence of
20 good cause.²² Good cause is not a rigorous standard which federal courts construe "broadly across
21 procedural and statutory contexts."²³ Further, requests for an extension beyond the expiration of
22

23 ¹² ECF No. 58

24 ¹³ ECF No. 59

25 ¹⁴ ECF No. 60

26 ¹⁵ ECF No. 76

27 ¹⁶ *Id.*

28 ¹⁷ *Id.*

¹⁸ ECF No. 71

¹⁹ ECF No. 72

²⁰ ECF No. 74

²¹ FRCP 4(m)

²² *Efaw v. Williams*, 473 F.3d 1038, 1040 (9th Cir. 2007) (emphasis in original)

²³ *Ahanchian v. Xenon Pictures, Inc.*, 624 F.3d 1253, 1259 (9th Cir. 2010)

1 a deadline should be granted unless there is bad faith on the part of the party seeking relief or
2 there is prejudice to the adverse party.²⁴

3 When exercising its discretion under FRCP 4(m), a district court may consider factors like
4 a statute of limitations bar, prejudice to the defendant, actual notice of a lawsuit, and eventual
5 service.²⁵

6 Here, good cause exists to extend the deadline for service for an additional 30 days
7 because due to Plaintiff's diligence two of the three defendants remaining to be served have been
8 served, and the remaining defendant has been located out of state. Plaintiff attempted to mitigate
9 service issues by sending each remaining Defendant a service waiver, but the Defendants failed
10 to return the executed waiver.

11 Defendants will not be prejudiced by an additional 30-day extension of time to serve
12 Defendant Edison Rojas *only* as it is believed that he has actual notice of this lawsuit. As part of
13 the parties' stipulation, Defense counsel requested time to contact each defendant to obtain for
14 permission to accept service on their behalf. Defendant Rojas is one of the defendants for whom
15 defense counsel did not receive a request for representation.²⁶ Therefore, Defendants Rojas has
16 presumably been made aware of this lawsuit via the Office of the Attorney General yet declined
17 representation. An extension of time will allow time for Plaintiff serve Defendant Rojas in
18 Nebraska, where he has been located and is confirmed as owning a home and working for the
19 Nebraska Department of Corrections.

20 Last, Plaintiff's counsel has already conferred with defense counsel, Randall Gilmer,
21 from the OAG who stated that he takes no position to Plaintiff's request and no opposition will
22 be filed.²⁷

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27 ²⁴ *Id.*

28 ²⁵ *Efaw v. Williams*, 473 F.3d 1038, 1041 (9th Cir. 2007)

²⁶ See ECF No. 41, 1:26 – 2:2.

²⁷ ECF No. 76

1 **III. CONCLUSION**

2 Based on the foregoing, Plaintiff respectfully requests an additional 30-day extension of
3 time to serve Defendant Edison Rojas.

4 DATED this 28th day of March, 2023.

5 **THE VIEIRA FIRM**

6
7 By: /s/ Andréa L. Vieira
8 ANDRÉA L. VIEIRA, ESQ.
9 Nevada Bar No. 15667
10 400 S. 7th St., Ste. 400
11 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
12 Telephone: (702) 820-5853
13 Facsimile: (702) 820-5836
14 Andrea@TheVieiraFirm.com
15 *Court Appointed Pro Bono*
16 *Attorney for Plaintiff*

17 **ORDER**

18 **IT IS SO ORDERED**

19 **DATED:** 6:06 pm, March 29, 2023

20 

21 **BRENDA WEKSLER**
22 **UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to FRCP 5 and LR IC 1-1, I hereby certify that I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing **MOTION TO EXTEND TIME FOR SERVICE (Second Request)** on the 28th day of March, 2023, upon the all parties registered for e-service in the service list of this matter on the court’s electronic filing system, or if the document is one that will not be filed electronically pursuant to LR IC 1-1(c), via U.S. Mail postage fully prepaid, addressed to each party as follows:

AARON D. FORD, ESQ.
Attorney General
TAYLOR M. L. RIVICH, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 15991
Deputy Attorney General
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
555 E. Washington Ave., Ste. 3900
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
Phone: (702) 486-3326
Fax: (702) 486-3773
Email: trivich@ag.nv.gov
Attorney for Defendants

/s/ Andréa Vieira
An Employee of THE VIEIRA FIRM, PLLC



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