

1 AARON D. FORD
 Attorney General
 2 JEFFREY A. COGAN, Bar No. 4569
 Deputy Attorney General
 3 State of Nevada
 Public Safety Division
 4 100 N. Carson Street
 Carson City, NV 89701-4717
 5 Tel: (775) 684-1261
 E-mail: jcogan@ag.nv.gov

6 *Attorneys for Defendants*
 7 *Paul Valdez and Harold Wickham*

8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

9 **DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

10 CARY J. PICKET,
 11 Plaintiff,
 12 vs.
 13 VALDEZ, et al.,
 14 Defendants.

Case No. 3:17-cv-00567-MMD-WGC

**ORDER GRANTING
 MOTION FOR EXTENSION TO FILE
 OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF
 CARY J. PICKETT'S
 MOTION FOR SUMMARY
 JUDGMENT (ECF No. 96)**

15 Defendants, Paul Valdez and Harold Wickham, by and through counsel, Aaron D.
 16 Ford, Attorney General of the State of Nevada, and Jeffrey A. Cogan, Deputy Attorney
 17 General, hereby files this Motion for Extension to File Opposition to Plaintiff Cary J.
 18 Pickett's Motion for Summary Judgment. (ECF NO. 96).

19 **POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

20 This is a *pro se* prisoner civil rights action brought by Nevada Department of
 21 Corrections (NDOC) inmate Cary J. Pickett (Pickett), #57591, asserting a single
 22 surviving retaliation claim arising under the First Amendment via 42 U.S.C. § 1983.
 23 See ECF No. 4 at 6. On December 10, 2020, this Court, at a telephone status conference
 24 relating to the status of the Office of the Attorney General's receipt of responses to
 25 written questions of percipient witness Clarence Cameron, the Court set the dispositive
 26 motion deadline to February 26, 2021. ECF 93. Pickett file a Motion for Summary
 27 Judgment on January 22, 2021, requiring a response by February 12, 2021. ECF No. 96.

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1 Defendants' counsel is suffering from a vitreous hemorrhage, a bleeding of blood
2 vessels in his left eye, causing blindness in his left eye. As such, it is more challenging
3 to work as quickly as Defendants' counsel had expected, causing delays to Defendants'
4 counsel workflow. Additionally, Defendants' counsel's workload increased as the
5 undersigned was required to respond to motions in other cases, relating to the same
6 inability to see.

7 Defendants' counsel had hoped that the vessels would be repaired through
8 surgery set for December 21, 2020, which was continued to February 3, 2020, as the eye
9 had not yet healed enough to commence surgery. On February 3, 2021, the
10 ophthalmologist determined to move the surgery to March 19, 2021, to allow for
11 additional healing.

12 I. LEGAL STANDARD

13 "For good cause, the court may extend the time prescribed by these rules or by its
14 order to perform any act or may permit an act to be done after that time expires." Fed.
15 R. Civ. P. 26(b). "The proper procedure, when additional time for any purpose is
16 needed, is to present to the Court a timely request for an extension before the time fixed
17 has expired (*i.e.*, a request presented before the time fixed for the purpose in question
18 has expired).

19 *Pickett v. Valdez*, Case No. 3:17-cv-00567-MMD-WGC, 2019 WL 2570524, *2 (D. Nev.
20 June 21, 2019) citing *Canup v. Miss. Valley Barge Line Co.*, 31 F.R.D. 282, 283 (D. Pa.
21 1962). The *Canup* Court explained that the "practicalities of life" (such as an attorney's
22 "conflicting professional engagements" or personal commitments such as vacations,
23 family activities, illnesses, or death) often necessitate an enlargement of time to comply
24 with a court deadline. *Id.* Extensions of time "usually are granted upon a showing of
25 good cause, if timely made." *Id.* citing *Creedon v. Taubman*, 8 F.R.D. 268, 269 (D. Ohio
26 1947). The good cause standard considers a party's diligence in seeking the continuance
27 or extension. See *In re Western States Wholesale Natural Gas Antitrust Litigation*, 715

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1 F.3d 716, 737 (9th Cir. 2013) citing *Johnson v. Mammoth Recreations, Inc.*, 975 F.2d 604,
2 609 (9th Cir. 1992).

3 **II. ARGUMENT**

4 The undersigned has sought to rectify his issue with his eye and adjusting his
5 workload to timely respond to his obligations as Defendants' counsel. The undersigned
6 seeks and additional one week to February 19, 2021 to respond to Plaintiff's Motion for
7 Summary Judgment. ECF No. 96. The Response is in its final stages and could be filed
8 before February 19, 2021, but it is more prudent to seek an extension of seven days to
9 ensure a second request for extension will not be filed. There would be no delay to the
10 proceedings as the dispositive motion deadline is February 26, 2021 and thus, if
11 Defendants file their motion for summary judgment, the Court would not rule until
12 Pickett filed a response by March 19, 2021 and any replies were subsequently be filed
13 on the motions for summary judgment.

14 DATED this 12th of February, 2021.

15 AARON D. FORD
16 Attorney General

17 By: /s/ Jeffrey A. Cogan
18 JEFFREY A. COGAN, Bar No. 4569
19 Deputy Attorney General

20 *Attorney for Defendants*

21 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

22 Walter G. Cobb
23 U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE

24 DATED: February 16, 2021