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1 2 3 4 5 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON 6 AT TACOMA 7 DARRICK L. HUNTER, CASE NO. C18-5198 BHS 8 Plaintiff, ORDER DECLINING TO ADOPT 9 v. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION AND 10 CHARLES N. ROHRER, et al., REFERRING FOR FURTHER PROCEEDINGS 11 Defendants. 12 This matter comes before the Court on the Report and Recommendation ("R&R") 13 of the Honorable J. Richard Creatura, United States Magistrate Judge, Dkt. 42, Plaintiff 14 Darrick Hunter's ("Hunter") objections to the R&R, Dkt. 43, and the parties' status 15 report, Dkt. 54. 16 On April 24, 2019, Judge Creatura issued the R&R recommending that the Court 17 grant Defendants Margaret Gilbert, Timothy McCandless, Keith Morgan, and Charles 18 Rohrer's ("Defendants") motion for summary judgment. Dkt. 42. On May 9, 2019, 19 Hunter filed objections. Dkt. 43. On October 2, 2019, the Court appointed counsel for 20 Hunter. Dkt. 51. On November 21, 2019, the parties filed a joint status report outlining 21 how each side intends to proceed with this matter. Dkt. 54. 22

Upon review of the report, the Court agrees with Hunter that the Court's order requesting supplemental briefing was not intended to narrow the scope of the issues in this matter nor comment on the R&R. Because the parties agree that discovery should be reopened, the Court concludes that the best path forward is to decline to adopt the R&R and refer the matter for further discovery and dispositive motions. It seems unnecessary to rule on issues at this time before additional discovery is completed or an amended complaint is possibly filed. Therefore:

- (1) The Court declines to **ADOPT** the R&R;
- (2) Defendants' motion, Dkt. 28, is **DENIED without prejudice**; and
- (3) The matter is referred for further proceedings.

Dated this 11th day of December, 2019.

BENJAMIN H. SETTLE United States District Judge