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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

ELIAS PENA,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ISAAH HUTSON,

Defendant.

CASE NO. 3:21-cv-05411-DGE

MINUTE ORDER

The following Minute Order is made by direction of the Court, United States District Judge David G. Estudillo:

The parties stipulated motion and proposed order for an extension of discovery and the dispositive deadline is DENIED. (Dkt. No. 40.) Strict adherence to deadlines is crucial for the Court’s case management. “In these days of heavy caseloads, trial courts [in the federal system] routinely set schedules and establish deadlines to foster the efficient treatment and resolution of cases. Those efforts will be successful only if the deadlines are taken seriously by the parties,

1 and the best way to encourage that is to enforce the deadlines.” *Wong v. Regents of Univ. of*
2 *California*, 410 F.3d 1052, 1060 (9th Cir. 2005).

3 The parties filed their motion on the last day of discovery. The stipulation does not
4 identify who the listed witnesses are, what information they might possess, and why their
5 depositions are necessary. The stipulation also fails to identify when the depositions were
6 requested and when the attorneys received responses regarding the witnesses’ availability. Aside
7 from the general assertion that the parties could not complete depositions “because of pre-
8 existing work, travel commitments, and jury service,” the stipulation does not explain why the
9 parties failed to meet the deadline previously extended by the Court *at the parties’ request*.
10 There are six Plaintiffs’ attorneys and two attorneys representing Defendant. It remains unclear
11 why these attorneys could not have covered in the case of one attorney’s absence. Good cause to
12 modify the current case schedule and to extend previously agreed to deadlines has not been
13 shown.

14 Therefore, the Court DENIES the Stipulated Motion and Proposed Order (Dkt. No. 40).

15 Dated this 18th day of January 2023.

16 The foregoing Minute Order authorized by THE HONORABLE DAVID G.
17 ESTUDILLO, UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE.