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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

KRISTOPHER G. FRENCH,
Plaintiff,
v.
J. MITCHELL,
Defendant.

Case No.: 3:22-cv-01355-MMA-AHG

ORDER:

**(1) GRANTING PLAINTIFF’S
MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF
TIME TO COMPLETE FACT
DISCOVERY, and**

**(2) ISSUING FIRST AMENDED
SCHEDULING ORDER**

[ECF No. 27]

Before the Court is Plaintiff’s Motion for Extension of Time to Complete Fact Discovery. ECF No. 27. Plaintiff seeks to extend the fact discovery deadline by 90 days, which Defendant opposes. *Id.*; ECF No. 31.

Parties seeking to continue deadlines in the scheduling order must demonstrate good cause. FED. R. CIV. P. 16(b)(4) (“A schedule may be modified only for good cause and with the judge’s consent”); ECF No. 16 at 5 (Scheduling Order, stating that “[t]he dates set forth herein will not be modified except for good cause shown”); AHG.Chmb.R. at 2 (stating that any request for continuance requires “[a] showing of good cause for the request”).

1 Courts have broad discretion in determining whether there is good cause. *See, e.g.,*
2 *Johnson v. Mammoth Recreations, Inc.*, 975 F.2d 604, 607 (9th Cir. 1992); *Liguori v.*
3 *Hansen*, No. 2:11cv492-GMN-CWH, 2012 WL 760747, at *12 (D. Nev. Mar. 6, 2012).
4 “Good cause” is a non-rigorous standard that has been construed broadly across procedural
5 and statutory contexts. *Ahanchian v. Xenon Pictures, Inc.*, 624 F.3d 1253, 1259 (9th Cir.
6 2010). The good cause standard focuses on the diligence of the party seeking to amend the
7 scheduling order and the reasons for seeking modification. *Johnson*, 975 F.2d at 609
8 (“[T]he focus of the inquiry is upon the moving party’s reasons for seeking modification. .
9 . . . If that party was not diligent, the inquiry should end.”) (internal citation omitted).
10 Therefore, “a party demonstrates good cause by acting diligently to meet the original
11 deadlines set forth by the court.” *Merck v. Swift Transp. Co.*, No. CV-16-01103-PHX-ROS,
12 2018 WL 4492362, at *2 (D. Ariz. Sept. 19, 2018). However, a court also may consider
13 the “existence or degree of prejudice to the party opposing the modification[.]” *Id.*

14 Here, the fact discovery completion deadline is August 1, 2023. ECF No. 16. On
15 June 22, 2023, Plaintiff filed the instant motion, requesting a 90-day extension. ECF
16 No. 27. On July 13, 2023, Defendant filed his opposition. ECF No. 31. Plaintiff represents
17 to the Court that she needs more time to conduct fact discovery, including interviewing
18 three more witnesses that “heard everything that happened” during the incident at issue in
19 her complaint “and could be the star witness[.]” ECF No. 27 at 1–2. Plaintiff also needs
20 the extra time to find legal representation. *Id.* Plaintiff notes, however, even if she is
21 unsuccessful in hiring a pro bono attorney, and although her anxiety is severe and extreme,
22 that she is adamant about litigating her case. *Id.* at 1; *see id.* at 3. Defendant argues that
23 Plaintiff has not shown good cause to extend the discovery cutoff. ECF No. 31 at 3–4.
24 Defendant contends that Plaintiff should have interviewed the three additional witnesses
25 earlier in the case, arguing that her delay shows a lack of diligence. *Id.* at 3. Defendant also
26 concludes, without explanation, that extending the deadline would prejudice Defendant.
27 *Id.* at 3–4. Thus, Defendant contends that the original fact discovery period is more than
28 sufficient. *Id.*

1 The Court has reviewed the papers submitted, as well as the docket, and has
2 considered the positions of both sides. The Court is not persuaded by Defendant’s
3 arguments. The Court appreciates that Plaintiff, though incarcerated, has been diligently
4 pursuing discovery. *See, e.g.*, ECF No. 31 at 2 (on April 23, 2023, Plaintiff propounded
5 requests for production of document and requests for admissions on Defendant); *Id.* (on
6 May 23, 2023, Plaintiff deposed an incarcerated witness with a list of pre-prepared
7 questions). Thus, the Court finds that Plaintiff has demonstrated the diligence necessary
8 for a finding of good cause. The Court also finds that extending the fact discovery deadline
9 in this instance will not prejudice Defendant. Thus, good cause appearing, the Court
10 **GRANTS** Plaintiff’s motion for extension. ECF No. 27; *see, e.g., Jones v. Pritchard*, No.
11 1:19cv396-DAD-HBK, 2021 WL 2954634, at *2 (E.D. Cal. June 24, 2021) (granting *pro*
12 *se* inmate-plaintiff’s request to extend the fact discovery deadline so he could seek
13 discovery from various non-parties); *Ayobi v. Showalter*, No. 1:17cv693-DAD-SAB-PC,
14 2019 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 11743, at *3–*4 (E.D. Cal. Jan 23, 2019) (granting *pro se* inmate-
15 plaintiff’s request to extend the fact discovery deadline, noting that “the Court is vested
16 with broad discretion to manage discovery and notwithstanding these procedures, Plaintiff
17 is entitled to leniency as a *pro se* litiga[nt]”).

18 The Court issues the following Amended Scheduling Order:

19 1. All fact discovery must be completed by all parties by **November 1, 2023**.
20 “Completed” means that all discovery under Rules 30-36 of the Federal Rules of Civil
21 Procedure, and discovery subpoenas under Rule 45, must be initiated a sufficient period of
22 time in advance of the cut-off date, **so that it may be completed** by the cut-off date, taking
23 into account the times for service, notice and response as set forth in the Federal Rules of
24 Civil Procedure. **Counsel shall promptly and in good faith meet and confer with**
25 **regard to all discovery disputes in compliance with Local Rule 26.1(a). A failure to**
26 **comply in this regard will result in a waiver of a party’s discovery issue. Absent an**
27 **order of the court, no stipulation continuing or altering this requirement will be**
28 **recognized by the court.** The Court expects both sides to make every effort to resolve all

1 disputes without court intervention through the meet and confer process. If the parties
2 reach an impasse on any discovery issue, Defendant must e-mail chambers at
3 efile_goddard@casd.uscourts.gov no later than 45 days after the date of service of the
4 written discovery response that is in dispute, seeking a telephonic conference with the
5 Court to discuss the discovery dispute. The email must include: (1) at least three proposed
6 times mutually agreed upon by the parties for the telephonic conference; (2) a neutral
7 statement of the dispute; and (3) one sentence describing (not arguing) each parties'
8 position. No discovery motion may be filed until the Court has conducted its pre-motion
9 telephonic conference, unless the movant has obtained leave of Court. **All parties are**
10 **ordered to read and to fully comply with the Chambers Rules of Magistrate Judge**
11 **Allison H. Goddard** (attached to this Order for Plaintiff's convenience).

12 2. The parties must designate their respective experts in writing by
13 **December 1, 2023**. The parties must identify any person who may be used at trial to
14 present evidence pursuant to Rules 702, 703 or 705 of the Fed. R. Evid. This requirement
15 is not limited to retained experts. The date for exchange of rebuttal experts must be by
16 **January 5, 2024**. The written designations must include the name, address and telephone
17 number of the expert and a reasonable summary of the testimony the expert is expected to
18 provide. The list must also include the normal rates the expert charges for deposition and
19 trial testimony.

20 3. By **December 1, 2023**, each party must comply with the disclosure provisions
21 in Rule 26(a)(2)(B) and (C) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. This disclosure
22 requirement applies to all persons retained or specially employed to provide expert
23 testimony, or whose duties as an employee of the party regularly involve the giving of
24 expert testimony. **Except as provided in the paragraph below, any party that fails to**
25 **make these disclosures will not, absent substantial justification, be permitted to use**
26 **evidence or testimony not disclosed at any hearing or at the time of trial. In addition,**
27 **the Court may impose sanctions as permitted by Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(c).**

28 4. Any party must supplement its disclosure regarding contradictory or rebuttal

1 evidence under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2)(D) by **January 5, 2024**.

2 5. All expert discovery must be completed by all parties by **February 5, 2024**.
3 The parties must comply with the same procedures set forth in the paragraph governing
4 fact discovery. Failure to comply with this section or any other discovery order of the court
5 may result in the sanctions provided for in Fed. R. Civ. P. 37, including a prohibition on
6 the introduction of experts or other designated matters in evidence.

7 6. Motions for summary judgment made solely on the basis of exhaustion, if any,
8 must have been filed by March 17, 2023. *See* ECF No. 16.

9 7. All other dispositive pretrial motions, including motions for summary
10 judgment on the merits and motions addressing *Daubert* issues, must be filed by
11 **March 18, 2024**.¹ Counsel for the moving party must obtain a motion hearing date from
12 Judge Anello's law clerk. The period of time between the date you request a motion date
13 and the hearing date may vary from one district judge to another. Please plan accordingly.
14 Failure to make a timely request for a motion date may result in the motion not being heard.

15 8. If appropriate, following the filing of an order ruling on a motion for summary
16 judgment or other dispositive pretrial motion, or in the event no such motion is filed, after
17 the expiration of the deadline set forth in paragraph 9, *supra*, Judge Anello will issue a
18 pretrial scheduling order setting a pretrial conference, trial date, and all related pretrial
19 deadlines. The parties must review and be familiar with Judge Anello's Civil Chambers
20 Rules, which provide additional information regarding pretrial scheduling.

21 1. A Mandatory Settlement Conference shall be conducted on
22 **February 21, 2024** at **9:30 a.m.** before **Magistrate Judge Allison H. Goddard**.

23 a. Defendant's counsel must provide Plaintiff with his mailing address by
24 **January 2, 2024**. Plaintiff must serve on Defendant a **written** settlement
25 proposal, to the mailing address provided, which must include a specific
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27 ¹ This deadline is not applicable to pretrial motions *in limine*. For further information
28 regarding motions *in limine*, please refer to Judge Anello's Civil Chambers Rules.

1 demand amount, no later than **January 12, 2024**. Defendant must respond
2 to Plaintiff **in writing** with a specific offer amount by **January 26, 2024**.
3 The parties **should not file** or otherwise copy the Court on these
4 exchanges. Rather, the parties must include their written settlement
5 proposals in their respective Settlement Conference Statements to the
6 Court. The Court waives its meet and confer requirement for this MSC.

7 b. Each party must prepare a Settlement Conference Statement, which will
8 be served on opposing counsel and lodged with the Court no later than
9 **February 12, 2024**. Defendant’s Statement must be lodged in .pdf format
10 via email to efile_goddard@casd.uscourts.gov (not filed). Plaintiff’s
11 Statement may be mailed to:

12 **Chambers of Magistrate Judge Allison H. Goddard**
13 **221 West Broadway, Suite 3142**
14 **San Diego, California 92101**

15 The substance of the Settlement Conference Statement must comply fully
16 with the Judge Goddard’s Mandatory Settlement Conference Rules
17 (located at located at
18 [https://www.casd.uscourts.gov/Judges/goddard/docs/Goddard%20Manda](https://www.casd.uscourts.gov/Judges/goddard/docs/Goddard%20Mandatory%20Settlement%20Conference%20Rules.pdf)
19 [tory%20Settlement%20Conference%20Rules.pdf](https://www.casd.uscourts.gov/Judges/goddard/docs/Goddard%20Mandatory%20Settlement%20Conference%20Rules.pdf) and attached to this
20 Order for Plaintiff’s convenience). Each party may also prepare an
21 **optional** Confidential Settlement Letter for the Court’s review only, to be
22 lodged with the Court no later than **February 12, 2024**. Defendant’s
23 Letter must be lodged in .pdf format via email to
24 efile_goddard@casd.uscourts.gov (not filed). Plaintiff may mail his Letter
25 to the address provided above. Should a party choose to prepare a Letter,
26 the substance of the Settlement Conference Letter must comply fully with
27 the Judge Goddard’s Mandatory Settlement Conference Rules (located at
28 the link above and attached to this Order for Plaintiff’s convenience).

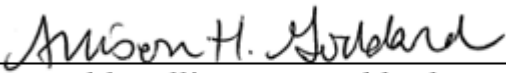
1 c. All parties are ordered to read and to fully comply with the Chambers
2 Rules and Mandatory Settlement Conference Rules of Magistrate
3 Judge Allison H. Goddard (attached hereto), except as explicitly
4 modified by this order.

5 9. The dates and times set forth herein will not be modified except for good cause
6 shown.

7 10. Briefs or memoranda in support of or in opposition to any pending motion
8 must not exceed twenty-five (25) pages in length without leave of a district court judge.
9 No reply memorandum will exceed ten (10) pages without leave of a district court judge.
10 Briefs and memoranda exceeding ten (10) pages in length must have a table of contents
11 and a table of authorities cited.

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13 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

14 Dated: July 14, 2023

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17 Honorable Allison H. Goddard
18 United States Magistrate Judge
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ATTACHMENTS:

**CIVIL PRETRIAL PROCEDURES (“CHAMBERS RULES”) FOR
MAGISTRATE JUDGE ALLISON H. GODDARD**

and

**MANDATORY SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR
MAGISTRATE JUDGE ALLISON H. GODDARD**

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1 or in person, at the Court’s discretion) on any motion if one party notifies the Court in
2 advance that an attorney with fewer than ten years of experience will be arguing at least a
3 portion of the motion on behalf of that party. The party will be able to have more than one
4 attorney argue their side of the motion if one of the attorneys arguing has fewer than ten
years of experience.

5 **Remote Appearances.** The Court will notify the parties if any hearing or conference will
6 take place by telephone or videoconference, and provide directions for connection.

7 Counsel should appear and conduct themselves during any remote appearance as if they
8 are present in the courtroom, including avoiding extraneous background noise, ensuring a
clear connection, and dressing in appropriate courtroom attire.

9 **Motions to Seal.** There is a presumptive right of public access to court records based upon
10 common law and the First Amendment. The Court will scrutinize any request to file
11 information under seal, and a request will only be granted if a specific showing is made
12 that justifies sealing. Generic and vague references to “competitive harm” will almost
always be insufficient to justify sealing.

13 **Joint Motions.** Any administrative request to the Court (i.e., extension of time,
14 continuance of ENE, etc.) should be made to the Court by joint motion. If only one party
15 is making the request and the other party or parties do not oppose, they should indicate that
16 in the joint motion. If the other party or parties oppose the request, they should set forth
17 their position in the joint motion. *Ex parte* applications are disfavored, and any unopposed
18 request should be filed as a joint motion rather than an *ex parte* application. Counsel who
force an *ex parte* application by refusing to participate in the filing of a joint motion will
be subject to sanctions.

19 **Requests for Continuances.** All requests for continuances must be made by a joint motion
20 no less than seven calendar days before the affected date. The request must state:

- 21 1. The original deadline or date;
- 22 2. The number of previous requests for continuances;
- 23 3. A showing of good cause for the request;
- 24 4. Whether the request is opposed and why;
- 25 5. Whether the requested continuance will affect other case management dates; and
- 26 6. A declaration from the counsel seeking the continuance that describes the steps taken
27 to comply with the existing deadlines, and the specific reasons why the deadlines
28 cannot be met.
7. Should the parties request a continuance based on the plan to pursue private
mediation, in addition to the joint motion outlined above, the parties shall also lodge
(not file) a Joint Mediation Plan via email at

1 efile_goddard@casd.uscourts.gov on the same date they filed the joint motion. The
2 joint plan must state:

- 3 A. The firm date of mediation;
- 4 B. The identity of the mediator;
- 5 C. A complete list of informal discovery the parties agree to exchange
before mediation; and
- 6 D. A firm deadline by which the parties will exchange the informal
7 discovery.

8 **Discovery Disputes.** The parties must meet and confer in an attempt to resolve any
9 discovery disputes before contacting the Court. After meet and confer attempts have failed,
10 the movant must e-mail chambers at efile_goddard@casd.uscourts.gov seeking a
11 conference (either by telephone or videoconference) with the Court to discuss the discovery
12 dispute. The email must include: (1) at least three proposed times mutually agreed upon by
the parties for the telephonic conference; (2) a *neutral* statement of the dispute; and (3) one
13 sentence describing (not arguing) each parties’ position. The movant must copy opposing
14 counsel on the email.

15 No discovery motion may be filed until the Court has conducted its pre-motion conference,
16 unless the movant has obtained leave of Court. The Court may strike any discovery motion
17 that is filed without complying with this process.

18 The Court encourages parties to allow attorneys with fewer than ten years of experience to
19 argue a discovery dispute during the pre-motion conference. The Court will allow multiple
20 attorneys for a party to be heard on a dispute if at least one of the attorneys has fewer than
21 ten years of experience.

22 This process does not apply where a party is in custody and is proceeding *pro se*. In that
23 case, counsel may contact chambers by telephone to obtain a hearing date on a noticed
24 discovery motion.

25 If a dispute arises during the course of a deposition, counsel must meet and confer prior to
26 seeking any ruling from the Court. After meet and confer attempts have failed, counsel
27 may call chambers to seek a ruling. If the Court is unable to review the matter at that
28 moment, counsel should proceed with the deposition in other areas of inquiry and the Court
will respond as soon as practicable.

Deadline to Raise Discovery Disputes With the Court. The parties must bring any
discovery dispute to the Court’s attention (either by email or filing a motion as outlined
above) no later than 45 days after either (1) the date of service of the written discovery
response that is in dispute; or (2) the date that the portion of the deposition transcript in

1 dispute is completed. Failure to meet this deadline will bar a party from filing a
2 corresponding discovery motion. The parties must file a joint motion demonstrating good
3 cause if they seek to extend this deadline. The parties cannot extend this deadline by any
4 agreement that is not approved by the Court.

4 **Stipulated Protective Orders.** Any protective order submitted for the Court’s signature
5 must contain the following two provisions:

- 6 1. No document shall be filed under seal unless counsel secures a court order allowing
7 the filing of a document, or portion thereof, under seal. An application to file a
8 document under seal shall be served on opposing counsel, and on the person or entity
9 that has custody and control of the document, if different from opposing counsel. If
10 opposing counsel, or the person or entity who has custody and control of the
11 document, wishes to oppose the application, they must contact the chambers of the
12 judge who will rule on the application to notify the Court that an opposition to the
13 application will be filed.
- 14 2. The Court may modify the protective order *sua sponte* in the interests of justice or
15 for public policy reasons.

14 The Court recommends that the stipulated protective order contain a provision regarding
15 the disposition of confidential or sealed documents and information after the case is closed.

16 All stipulated protective orders must be filed as a joint motion. The parties must email a
17 copy of the proposed order in Word format to
18 efile_goddard@casd.uscourts.gov.

19 **Notice of Settlement.** If the parties reach a settlement, counsel must promptly file a Notice
20 of Settlement or an appropriate Motion to Dismiss. If a scheduled date with the Court is
21 imminent, counsel must also contact chambers to advise of the settlement. Once a Notice
22 of Settlement is filed, the Court will schedule a telephonic Settlement Disposition
23 Conference, which will be taken off calendar once the case has been dismissed.

**MANDATORY SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR
MAGISTRATE JUDGE ALLISON H. GODDARD**

- 1 **1. Discovery:** Counsel shall ensure that any discovery necessary to evaluate the case for settlement purposes is completed by the date of the Settlement Conference. Counsel shall cooperate in providing discovery informally and expeditiously.
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- 3 **2. Plaintiff Must Make a Formal Settlement Proposal:** No later than 21 days before the conference, the plaintiff must serve on the defendant a written settlement proposal, which must include a specific demand amount. The defendant must respond to the plaintiff in writing with a specific offer amount prior to the Meet and Confer discussion. The parties should not file or otherwise copy the Court on these exchanges. Rather, the parties must include their written settlement proposals in their respective Settlement Conference Statements to the Court.
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- 6 **3. Who Must Attend:** Lead trial counsel shall appear at the conference with the parties. Any party who is not a natural person shall be represented by the person(s) with full authority to negotiate a settlement. An insured party shall appear with a representative of the carrier with full authority to negotiate up to the limits of coverage. A person who needs to call another person who is not present before agreeing to any settlement does not have full authority. Personal attendance of a party is mandatory and will only be excused upon a written request that is timely under the circumstances and demonstrates extraordinary hardship.
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- 11 **4. Meet and Confer Requirement:** Counsel for the parties must meet and confer (in person or by phone, not by email) to discuss the following matters no later than 14 days before the Settlement Conference:
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- 13 A. Who will attend the conference on behalf of each party, including counsel, client representatives with full authority to make final decisions regarding any settlement offer, and any insurance representatives.
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- 15 B. Identification of any persons or entities, such as a board of directors, who must approve a proposed settlement agreement before it can be executed, as well as the nature and duration of any such approval process.
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- 17 C. Insurance coverage available to cover all or part of the claimed losses or to fund all or part of any party’s defense, and status of any tenders for coverage.
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1 **5. Settlement Conference Statements and Confidential Settlement Letters:** Each
2 party shall prepare a Settlement Conference Statement that will be exchanged with
3 the other parties. Each party may also prepare an optional Confidential Settlement
4 Letter that will be for the Court’s review only. Both the Statement and the Letter
5 must be lodged in .pdf format via email to efile_goddard@casd.uscourts.gov (not
6 filed), and must be received no later than 10 calendar days prior to the conference.
7 The Settlement Conference Statement must be served on opposing counsel.

8 **6. Contents of Settlement Conference Statement:** The Settlement Conference
9 Statement shall not exceed 10 pages of text and 20 pages of exhibits. Exhibits must
10 be bookmarked within the .pdf file. The Settlement Conference Statement shall
11 include the following:

12 A. Substance of the Suit

13 i. A brief statement of the facts of the case.

14 ii. The claims and defenses, including the statutory or other
15 grounds upon which the claims are founded.

16 iii. A summary of the proceedings to date, including a list of
17 the motions previously made, their dispositions, and any pending
18 motions.

19 iv. A statement of facts not reasonably in dispute.

20 v. A list of the key facts in dispute and the specific evidence
21 relevant to a determination of those facts.

22 vi. Any discrete issue that, if resolved, would facilitate the
23 resolution of the case.

24 vii. A brief statement of the issues of law with respect to
25 liability and damages. The statement must be supported by legal
26 authority, but extended legal argument is not necessary.

27 B. Relief Sought. A statement of the relief sought, including an
28 itemization of damages and any other non-monetary relief.

C. Settlement Discussions/Proposal and Response. Except to the extent
prohibited by applicable rules of privilege, describe the history and status of

any settlement negotiations.

7. **Additional Settlement Information:** The parties must submit the additional information below either in the Settlement Conference Statement or the Confidential Settlement Letter. The Confidential Settlement Letter may not exceed 5 pages of text.

A. Settlement Analysis:

i. For each principal claim and defense, a forthright evaluation of the strengths, weaknesses, likelihood of prevailing, and key legal authorities.

ii. The party’s perspective regarding why parties’ assessments of the settlement value of the case differ.

B. Litigation Costs: A statement of litigation costs and attorney fees incurred to date, as well as the estimated costs, fees, and time projected for further discovery, pretrial proceedings, and trial. If a party seeks attorney fees and costs, that party shall provide the legal basis for the claim and sufficient information to evaluate the amount of fees claimed.

C. Other Information: Include any other information that might be pertinent to settlement, including the following:

i. What needs of your client must be met for the parties to reach a settlement?

ii. What needs of the opposing party must be met to reach a settlement?

iii. A description of the main obstacles (factual, legal, or other) to reaching agreement, and what might be done to solve them.

iv. Do you have enough information to discuss settlement and, if not, what additional information is needed?

v. What are the consequences to each side if no settlement is reached?

D. A realistic settlement figure or terms that, given all the circumstances,

1 the party submitting the Confidential Settlement Letter would consider
2 seriously.

3 E. Where the party is insured or is a governmental entity, any foreseeable
4 barriers to insurance coverage or approval of a proposed settlement, or
5 special concerns that the insurer or governmental entity might want
6 addressed.

7 **8. Further Settlement Conferences:**

8 A. Updated Statements: Unless explicitly relieved of this requirement,
9 the parties shall lodge updated Settlement Conference Statements 10 days
10 prior to the further Settlement Conference, in accordance with Sections 6
11 and 7, to inform the Court of the status of the action and any developments
12 that have occurred since the last Settlement Conference.

13 B. Confidential Settlement Letters: The parties may also lodge updated
14 Confidential Settlement Letters in accordance with Section 7.

15 **9. Notification of Settlement:** If the case settles prior to the Settlement Conference,
16 the parties shall immediately file a notice of settlement and notify Judge Goddard's
17 chambers at efile_goddard@casd.uscourts.gov.

18 **10. Confidentiality:** Parties are encouraged to discuss their case in a respectful and
19 candid manner. To facilitate this, any statements made during the conference will
20 not be admissible at trial.
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