

MAGISTRATE JUDGE STANLEY A. BOONE (SAB)
United States District Court - Eastern District of California
2500 Tulare Street, Courtroom #9, 6th Floor
Fresno, California 93721
Courtroom Deputy Clerk, Mamie Hernandez
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1. Consent

Due to the pressing workload of the two district judges and the priority of criminal cases under the U.S. Constitution, the parties are strongly encouraged to consent to magistrate judge jurisdiction in an effort to have their cases adjudicated in a timely manner. Presently, when a civil trial is set before the district judge, any criminal trial set which conflicts with a civil trial, even though the civil trial was set first, will take priority. Continuances of civil trials under these circumstances will no longer be entertained, absent extreme good cause, but will instead trail the completion of the criminal case. While the parties are under no obligation to consent to magistrate jurisdiction, magistrate judges' trial calendars are more flexible and accommodating because magistrate judges are not required to conduct criminal felony cases.

2. Civil Law and Motion Calendar:

- a) **Civil Law & Motion:** Hearings are on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Courtroom #9 - motion dates are not reserved. Motion dates are subject to change at the court's discretion.
- b) **Clearance of Law & Motion Dates:** Parties do not need to clear a motion hearing date. File your moving papers in accordance with the Local and Federal Rules, if the date conflicts with the Court's calendar, the Court will reschedule the matter by minute order. **DATES ARE NOT RESERVED.**
- c) **Motion Related Documents:** Paper copies of all motion-related documents, properly tabbed, fastened, and clearly identified as a "Courtesy Copy" shall be submitted to the court, Attention: Judge Boone.
- d) **Law & Motion Hearings:** On short notice, Minute Orders may be issued vacating the hearing and taking the matter under submission pursuant to Local Rule 230(g) (Fed. R. Civ. P. 78) - *please refer to the court's Notice of Electronic Filing.*

3. Scheduling Conferences:

A JOINT Scheduling Conference Report, carefully prepared and executed by all counsel, shall be electronically filed in full compliance with the requirements set forth in the **Order Setting Mandatory Scheduling Conference**, one (1) full week prior to the Scheduling Conference, and a copy shall be e-mailed, in Word format to saborders@caed.uscourts.gov.

4. Settlement Conferences:

- a) **Prerequisites:** The case must be ready for meaningful settlement discussions. Plaintiff must make a demand to defendants and initial settlement negotiations must take place prior to the Settlement Conference being held.
- b) **Settlement Conference Statements:** Confidential Settlement Conference Statements are **MANDATORY** from each party, and must be submitted to Judge Boone's chambers **at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the Settlement Conference.**
- c) **Appearances:** Parties must appear with counsel. Upon written request with *good cause* submitted for Judge Boone's approval, some telephonic appearances may be granted. These request are generally discouraged.

5. Telephonic Appearances:

- a) Telephonic appearances by local or out-of-town counsel are acceptable.
- b) Please notify the courtroom deputy if one or more attorneys will be appearing telephonically, so that a notation can be placed on the court calendar.
- c) Counsel shall make arrangements for and shall initiate the conference call at the scheduled time.
- d) After all parties are on the line, the call should be placed to Judge Boone's chambers at **559-499-5200**.

6. Discovery Hearings:

Local Rule 251(a) (Fed.R.Civ.P. 37) requires a joint statement. However, with the press of business, Judge Boone REQUIRES a joint statement re discovery disagreement be filed one (1) full week before the scheduled hearing date (i.e., the Wednesday before the customary Wednesday hearing). Any motion will be removed from calendar if the statement is not timely filed, and courtesy copies of all motion-related documents, including the L.R. 251 statement, declarations, and exhibits (see #2c above), are not delivered to the Clerk's Office by 9:00 a.m. on the fourth (4th) day (Friday) prior to the hearing (customarily on Wednesdays).

Parties must note that under the "meet and confer" requirements the court requires that in addition to any written correspondence the parties may engage in (letters and/or email) the parties are also required to physically talk to each other before the hearing about the discovery dispute. This requirement can be accomplished in person, over the telephone or through video conferencing.

7. Informal Telephonic Conferences re Discovery Disputes:

- a) If the parties stipulate, Judge Boone will resolve discovery disputes outside the formal Local Rule 251 procedures. Before resolving the dispute, the parties must agree to an entry of an order by the court after the informal telephonic conference and must abide by such order.
- b) After obtaining the available dates and times from the courtroom deputy and agreeing upon a date and time with opposing counsel, confirm with the courtroom deputy when the parties will be calling in. All parties must appear telephonically.
- c) At least 24 hours before the conference, the parties should email a two-page synopsis (no exhibits or attachments) of their dispute to saborders@caed.uscourts.gov.

8. All Documents Requiring Court Approval:

As required by Local Rule 137(b), counsel shall submit all proposed orders, stipulations, etc., in either Microsoft Word (preferred) or Word Perfect format, to chambers at saborders@caed.uscourts.gov. Pursuant to Local Rule 131(c), the documents should include the attorneys' electronic signatures (i.e. /s/First/Last Name), as well as the date the document was signed.

9. Length of Briefs on Motions other than Rule 251 motions:

Unless prior leave of Court is obtained seven days before the filing date, all moving and opposition briefs or legal memorandum in civil cases shall not exceed 25 pages. Reply briefs filed by moving parties shall not exceed 10 pages. **Any brief exceeding 15 pages shall include a table of contents and a table of authorities.** Briefs that exceed the page limitations or are sought to be filed without leave may not be considered. If combined supporting papers or opposition papers exceed 25 pages, the parties are required to submit a complete set of all papers as chambers courtesy copy, properly tabbed and fastened.