

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Eucebio Torres v. Officer G. Paredes, et al.

Torres v. Paredes · No. 22-cv-448-JES-DTF · Decided July 2, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of California orders a mandatory settlement conference in Torres v. Paredes. The conference is scheduled for August 25, 2025, before Magistrate Judge D. Thomas Ferraro and will be conducted by Zoom. The order establishes requirements concerning attendance, settlement proposals, meet-and-confer obligations, settlement conference statements, and requests for continuances.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	D. Thomas Ferraro
DECIDED	July 2, 2025
DOCKET	22-cv-448-JES-DTF
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The district court issued an order setting a mandatory settlement conference and establishing preconference procedures and deadlines.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential

TOPICS

mediation civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

civil procedure civil rights

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. What attendance and settlement authority requirements apply to the mandatory settlement conference?
2. What procedures and deadlines must the parties follow before and during the Zoom settlement conference?
3. What showing and filing requirements apply to a request to continue the settlement conference?

HOLDINGS

1. All parties, required claims adjusters, responsible attorneys, and nonlawyer representatives with full and unlimited authority to negotiate and enter into a binding settlement must attend the settlement conference and be legally and factually prepared to resolve the case.
2. The parties must comply with the court's mandatory procedures, including participating by Zoom, exchanging written settlement proposals, meeting and conferring, lodging settlement conference statements, and providing participant information by the specified deadlines.
3. The settlement conference may be rescheduled only upon a showing of good cause and adequate notice, and absent extraordinary circumstances a continuance request must be made by joint motion in writing at least seven days before the conference and must address the matters specified in the order.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Full and unlimited authority” means that the individuals attending the SC must be authorized to fully explore settlement options and to agree at that time to any settlement terms acceptable to the parties.” (1)

“The person needs to have “unfettered discretion and authority” to change the settlement position of a party.” (1)

“The SC may be rescheduled only upon a showing of good cause and adequate notice to the Court.” (2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The case was pending in the Southern District of California and was scheduled for a settlement conference using Zoom. The court required the parties, counsel, claims adjusters where applicable, and authorized representatives to attend and be prepared to negotiate. The order also established deadlines for written settlement proposals, a meet-and-confer, settlement conference statements, and any request to continue the conference.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

At the request of the district judge, the court set a settlement conference for August 25, 2025, before Magistrate Judge D. Thomas Ferraro. The order imposed attendance, preparation, technology, settlement-proposal, meet-and-confer, statement, and continuance requirements.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Heileman Brewing Co., Inc. v. Joseph Oat Corp., 871 F.2d 648 (7th Cir. 1989)
- Pitman v. Brinker Int'l, Inc., 216 F.R.D. 481, 485-486 (D. Ariz. 2003)