

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Cobian v. BET Information Systems, Inc.

Cobian · No. 3:25-cv-01999-GPC-AHG · Decided August 26, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of California denied the parties’ joint motion to continue the Early Neutral Evaluation and Case Management Conference by 90 days. The court found no good cause because the parties provided insufficient detail concerning the anticipated arbitration motion and discovery and failed to submit the required counsel declaration, while modifying certain conference attendance and filing requirements.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Allison H. Goddard
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of California
DECIDED	August 26, 2025
DOCKET	3:25-cv-01999-GPC-AHG
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The parties jointly moved to continue an early neutral evaluation conference and case management conference because the defendant planned to move to compel arbitration and the plaintiff anticipated seeking arbitration-related discovery.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court applied a good-cause standard and exercised broad discretion in determining whether the requested continuance was justified. The inquiry focused on the diligence of the parties seeking modification and their reasons for needing additional time.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished

TOPICS

- arbitration
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the parties demonstrated good cause to continue the scheduled early neutral evaluation and case management conference.
2. Whether the court should modify the conference schedule and related participation and filing requirements despite denying the requested continuance.

HOLDINGS

1. The parties did not demonstrate good cause for a 90-day continuance because their motion lacked sufficient detail regarding the anticipated motion to compel arbitration, the proposed discovery, the timing of those matters, and the steps taken to comply with existing deadlines.
2. The court denied the requested continuance but retained the ENE on September 3, 2025, excused named parties and certain representatives from attending, continued the joint case management statement deadline to August 28, 2025, and left the remaining conference procedures and deadlines in place.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The good cause standard focuses on the diligence of the party seeking to amend the scheduling order and the reasons for seeking modification.” (Opinion at 1)

“Upon due consideration, the Court does not find good cause for a continuance. Therefore, the Court DENIES the parties’ joint motion.” (Opinion at 2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The parties requested a 90-day continuance of the scheduled ENE and CMC while the defendant prepared a motion to compel arbitration and the plaintiff considered arbitration-related discovery. They provided few details concerning the anticipated motion, the scope or timing of discovery, or compliance with the court's requirement that a continuance motion include a counsel declaration.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The court had previously scheduled the ENE and CMC for September 3, 2025. The parties sought a roughly 90-day continuance, but the court denied the motion for failure to demonstrate good cause and modified certain conference-related deadlines and attendance requirements instead.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Johnson v. Mammoth Recreations, Inc., 975 F.2d 604, 607, 609 (9th Cir. 1992)

- Liguori v. Hansen, No. 2:11cv492-GMN-CWH, 2012 WL 760747, at *12 (D. Nev. Mar. 6, 2012)
- Ahanchian v. Xenon Pictures, Inc., 624 F.3d 1253, 1259 (9th Cir. 2010)
- Merck v. Swift Transp. Co., No. CV-16-01103-PHX-ROS, 2018 WL 4492362, at *2 (D. Ariz. Sept. 19, 2018)

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