

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

United States of America ex rel. Toni S. Lee, et al. v. Barco Uniforms,
Inc., et al.

Lee v. Barco Uniforms · No. 2:16-cv-01805-DC-JDP · Decided December 19, 2025

SUMMARY

This is a scheduling order issued by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California in a qui tam action against Barco Uniforms, Inc. and other defendants. It establishes service, discovery, expert disclosure, motion, settlement, and pretrial procedures, including a fact-discovery deadline of July 10, 2026, and a motions deadline of December 14, 2026.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Dena Coggins
DECIDED	December 19, 2025
DOCKET	2:16-cv-01805-DC-JDP
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The district court issued a scheduling order after reviewing the parties' joint status report under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(b).
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential
PARTIES	United States of America ex rel. Toni S. Lee, et al. v. Barco Uniforms, Inc., et al.

TOPICS

- civil procedure
- service of process
- joinder
- discovery dispute
- mediation

PRACTICE AREAS

- Civil procedure
- Commercial litigation
- False Claims Act litigation

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should issue a case schedule under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(b) without first conducting a scheduling conference.

2. How service of process, amendment of pleadings, joinder, discovery, motion practice, settlement, and pretrial proceedings should be managed in the action.
3. What showing is required to modify the scheduling order or obtain reconsideration of a magistrate judge's discovery ruling.

HOLDINGS

1. The court may issue a scheduling order without consulting counsel at a scheduling conference when the circumstances permitted under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(b)(1)(B) are present.
2. No further service, joinder of parties, or amendment of pleadings was permitted without leave of court and a showing of good cause under the scheduling order.
3. Discovery disputes, including motions to compel, were referred to the assigned magistrate judge under the court's procedures, and the magistrate judge's written ruling would be subject to district-court modification only if clearly erroneous or contrary to law.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“No further service is permitted without leave of court, good cause having been shown under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16(b).” (at 1)

“No further joinder of parties or amendments to pleadings is permitted without leave of court, good cause having been shown.” (at 1-2)

“The written ruling of the assigned magistrate judge shall be final, subject to modification by the district court only where it has been shown that the magistrate judge’s order is clearly erroneous or contrary to law.” (at 2-3)

“The schedule, once final, shall not be modified except by leave of court upon showing of good cause.” (at 6-7)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

This is a pending federal civil action in which Barco Uniforms, Inc. and Kenny Chan had appeared after service. The plaintiff represented that several other entity defendants were served through Kenny Chan and that multiple attempts had been made to serve David Chan, who resides outside the United States. The parties submitted a joint status report addressing case management and scheduling.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Barco Uniforms, Inc. and Kenny Chan had been served and appeared. The plaintiff reported continuing efforts to serve David Chan and asserted that several entity defendants had been served through personal service on Kenny Chan. The court established service, pleading, discovery, motion, settlement, and pretrial deadlines and procedures.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Johnson v. Mammoth Recreations, Inc., 975 F.2d 604 (9th Cir. 1992)
- Foman v. Davis, 371 U.S. 178, 182 (1962)

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