

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA

Douglas E. Shields v. State of Nevada ex rel NDOC, et al.

Douglas E. Shields v. State of Nevada ex rel. NDOC, et al., No. 3:24-cv-00216-ART-CLB (D. Nev. Dec. 4, 2025) · No. 3:24-cv-00216-ART-CLB · Decided December 4, 2025

SUMMARY

This order in Shields v. State of Nevada ex rel. NDOC, et al. requires the parties to exchange initial disclosures and attend a mandatory case management conference. It sets the conference for December 22, 2025, addresses topics for discussion and required case management statements, and provides that a full scheduling and discovery order will follow the conference.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of Nevada
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Carla Baldwin
DECIDED	December 4, 2025
DOCKET	3:24-cv-00216-ART-CLB
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	After screening Plaintiff's prisoner civil-rights complaint under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a) and allowing the action to proceed, the court entered an order requiring initial disclosures and setting a mandatory case management conference.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential case-management order

TOPICS

- discovery dispute
- civil procedure
- prisoners rights
- section 1983

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- prisoner civil rights
- federal litigation

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether the court should require initial disclosures under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16 notwithstanding the exemption in Rule 26(a)(1)(B).
- Whether the parties should be required to participate in a mandatory case management conference before further discovery proceeds.

HOLDINGS

- 1. The court may and does require the parties to exchange specified initial disclosures under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16, notwithstanding Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(1)(B).
- 2. No discovery other than the initial disclosures required by the order may proceed until the court issues a full scheduling order following the mandatory case management conference.

KEY QUOTATIONS

- “Aside from the initial disclosures required by this order, no other discovery may proceed until the court enters a full scheduling order following the mandatory scheduling conference.”* (1)
- “Accordingly, all parties are hereby ordered to provide initial disclosures with the following information:”* (1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiff Douglas E. Shields brought a prisoner civil-rights action against the State of Nevada ex rel. NDOC and other defendants. The court determined that the complaint could proceed after statutory screening. Because of the prisoner litigation docket and the need to manage discovery efficiently, the court required disclosures and scheduled a case management conference.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The court screened the complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a) and ordered the case to proceed. It then directed the parties to exchange initial disclosures, prohibited further discovery until entry of a full scheduling order, and scheduled a mandatory case management conference.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- United States v. Int’l Union of Petroleum & Indus. Workers, AFL-CIO, 870 F.2d 1450, 1452 (9th Cir. 1989)

OPINION

Shields

PER CURIAM.

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

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DISTRICT OF NEVADA

3 DOUGLAS E. SHIELDS, Case No. 3:24-cv-00216-ART-CLB 4 Plaintiff, ORDER SETTING
MANDATORY 5

CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

v. AND EXCHANGE OF INITIAL

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DISCLOSURES

STATE OF NEVADA ex rel NDOC, et al., 7 Defendants. 8 9 The Court has now screened Plaintiff's complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 10 1915A(a) and ordered the case to proceed. In order to ensure the just, speedy, and 11 cost-effective resolution of this action, the court orders: (1) the parties to exchange initial 12 disclosures, as described below; and (2) the parties attend a mandatory case 13 management conference to be held on December 22, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., as describe 14 more fully below. 15 Following the mandatory conference, the court will issue a full scheduling order, 16 setting out additional dates related to discovery and the litigation. Aside from the initial 17 disclosures required by this order, no other discovery may proceed until the court enters 18 a full scheduling order following the mandatory scheduling conference. 19

I. INITIAL DISCLOSURES

20 Notwithstanding Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 26(a)(1)(B), the court finds that 21 initial disclosures would be helpful in managing this action under Federal Rule of Civil 22 Procedure 16, taking into account the extent of prisoner litigation in this district, the desire 23 1 to manage those cases efficiently, the desire to secure the just, speedy, and inexpensive 2 determination of this case, the importance of the issues at stake, the parties' relative 3 access to relevant information, the parties' resources, the importance of discovery in 4 resolving issues, and the value of initial disclosure of information obtained through the 5 administrative grievance process.¹ Accordingly, all parties are hereby ordered to provide 6 initial disclosures with the following information:² 7 A. The name and, if known, the address and telephone number of each 8 individual likely to have discoverable information—along with the subjects of that 9 information—that the disclosing party may use to support its claims or defenses, unless 10 the use would be solely for impeachment. 11

1. The Parties may withhold confidential sensitive information

12 regarding the identity or contact information of such individuals so long as they provide 13 a method of identifying and contacting such individuals, such as through counsel. 14 B. A copy—or a description by category and location—of all documents, 15 electronically stored information, and tangible things that the disclosing party has in its 16 possession, custody, or control and may use to support its claims or defenses, unless 17 18

1 Rule 26, Advisory Committee Note, 2000 Amendments ("[T]he court can

19 order exchange of similar information in managing the action under Rule 16."). Also note Rule 26, Advisory Committee Note, 1993 Amendment "The enumeration in Rule 20 26(a) of items to be disclosed does not prevent a court from requiring by order or local rule that the parties disclose additional information without a discovery request." 21 2 These disclosures must be mailed to the other parties in the case, or their 22 attorneys, if they are represented by counsel. These disclosures should not be filed with the court. 23 1 the use would be solely for impeachment. 2

1. In the context of Rule 26, "[c]ontrol is defined as the legal right to

3 obtain documents upon demand." United States v. Int'l Union of Petroleum & Indus. 4 Workers, AFL-CIO, 870 F.2d 1450, 1452 (9th Cir. 1989). 5

2. To the extent Defendant(s) intend to rely on an affirmative defense

6 based on a failure to exhaust administrative remedies, Defendant(s) shall provide to 7 Plaintiff all documents Defendants intend to use to support that defense. 8

II. MANDATORY CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

9 A mandatory case management conference will be held on December 22, 2025, 10 at 9:00 a.m. Lead counsel and Mr. Shields shall dial 1-855-244-8681, access code 2319 11 945 8106 to be properly connected into the courtroom for this hearing. The parties 12 should be available for one hour, although the case management conference will likely 13 take less time. The parties shall be prepared to informally discuss the following issues: 14 A. A brief statement of the parties' claims and/or defenses; 15 B. Confirmation that initial disclosures (described above) have been provided, 16 and any justification for withholding any portion of that information; 17 C. The location of potentially relevant documents; 18 19 D. Any deficiency or problems in the other party's initial disclosures; 20 E. Discovery each party intends to take, if any, in addition to the discovery 21 ordered above; 22 F. A timeline for the scheduling of discovery; 23 | G. Any options or methods for the streamlining discovery; 2 H. Whether any party intends to challenge the issue of exhaustion; 3 4 I. Whether any party intends to use expert witnesses; and, 5 J. Any immediate or ongoing issues or requests for injunctive relief regarding current incarceration that could require the court's immediate attention.

' III. CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE STATEMENTS

At least one-week in advance of the case management conference, each party ° shall file a case management conference statement. The case management conference statement must address the issues listed above, as well as any other issues that the parties believe would assist in the scheduling of the case. The statement should include 2 the date that initial disclosures were served and any deficiencies in either party's 8 disclosures. The statement must not exceed five (5) pages in length and no exhibits or 4 attachments should be included.

IV. SCHEDULING ORDER

Following the case management conference, the court will issue a Scheduling Order and Discovery Plan with the benefit of the input of the parties. Once issued, the 8 dates in the Scheduling Order and Discovery Plan shall be firm and no extension shall " be given without permission from the court based on good cause shown. DATED: December 4, 2025 21

CARLA

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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