

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA

Willie Ray Lewis v. S. Austin, et al.

Lewis · No. 3:24-cv-00538-ART-CLB · Decided December 22, 2025

SUMMARY

This order from the United States District Court for the District of Nevada requires the parties in Willie Ray Lewis v. S. Austin, et al. to exchange initial disclosures and attend a mandatory case management conference. The conference is scheduled for January 14, 2026, and the parties must file case management conference statements at least one week beforehand. The court will issue a scheduling order and discovery plan after the conference.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of Nevada
DECIDED	December 22, 2025
DOCKET	3:24-cv-00538-ART-CLB
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	After screening Plaintiff's prisoner civil-rights complaint under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a) and permitting the action to proceed, the district court issued an order requiring initial disclosures, setting a mandatory case management conference, and temporarily limiting further discovery pending a scheduling order.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential
PARTIES	Willie Ray Lewis v. S. Austin, et al.

TOPICS

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

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- prisoner civil rights
- discovery

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether the court should require the parties to exchange initial disclosures notwithstanding the ordinary prisoner-litigation exception in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(1)(B).
- What case-management procedures should govern the action before entry of a full scheduling order.

HOLDINGS

1. The court may require the parties to exchange initial disclosures under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16 notwithstanding Rule 26(a)(1)(B), and the parties were ordered to provide the specified information and materials.
2. Except for the initial disclosures ordered by the court, no further discovery may proceed until the court issues a full scheduling order following the mandatory case management conference.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“[c]ontrol is defined as the legal right to obtain documents upon demand.” (at 2)

“[T]he court can order exchange of similar information in managing the action under Rule 16.” (at 1)

“The enumeration in Rule 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.” (at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The action is a prisoner civil-rights case brought by Willie Ray Lewis against S. Austin and other defendants. The court determined that initial disclosures would assist in managing the litigation, particularly information concerning individuals with discoverable information, supporting documents, and materials relevant to any exhaustion defense. The court also scheduled a mandatory case management conference to address discovery, exhaustion, expert witnesses, and potential requests for injunctive relief concerning Lewis's incarceration.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The court screened Lewis's complaint under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a) and ordered the case to proceed. It then entered this case-management order requiring the parties to exchange specified initial disclosures, file conference statements, attend a mandatory case management conference, and await a subsequent scheduling order before conducting additional discovery.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

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