

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Civil Division

Central District, Spring Street Courthouse, Department 6

24STCV12520

YOUNES YOUNES, vs ELVIRA TAYLOR,

June 6, 2024

10:00 AM

Judge: Honorable Elihu M. Berle
Judicial Assistant: N. Quispe
Courtroom Assistant: M. Molinar

CSR: None
ERM: None
Deputy Sheriff: None

APPEARANCES:

For Plaintiff(s): No Appearances

For Defendant(s): No Appearances

NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS: Court Order Re: Initial Status Conference Order

By this order, the Court determines this case to be Complex according to Rule 3.400 of the California Rules of Court. The Clerk's Office has assigned this case to this department for all purposes.

Pursuant to Government Code Sections 70616(a) and 70616(b), a single complex fee of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) must be paid on behalf of all plaintiffs. For defendants, a complex fee of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) must be paid for each defendant, intervenor, respondent or adverse party, not to exceed, for each separate case number, a total of eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000.00), collected from all defendants, intervenors, respondents, or adverse parties. All such fees are ordered to be paid to Los Angeles Superior Court, within ten (10) days of service of this order.

By this order, the Court stays the case, except for service of the Summons and Complaint. The stay continues at least until the Initial Status Conference. Initial Status Conference is set for 07/18/2024 at 11:00 AM in this department. At least ten (10) days prior to the Initial Status Conference, counsel for all parties must discuss the issues set forth in the Initial Status Conference Order issued this date. Counsel must file a Joint Initial Status Conference Response Statement five (5) court days before the Initial Status Conference.

The Initial Status Conference Order, served concurrently with this Minute Order, is to help the Court and the parties manage this complex case by developing an orderly schedule for briefing, discovery, and court hearings. The parties are informally encouraged to exchange documents and information as may be useful for case evaluation.

Responsive pleadings shall not be filed until further Order of the Court. Parties must file a Notice of Appearance in lieu of an Answer or other responsive pleading. The filing of a Notice of Appearance shall not constitute a waiver of any substantive or procedural challenge to the

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Deputy Sheriff: None

Complaint. Nothing in this order stays the time for filing an Affidavit of Prejudice pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 170.6. Nothing in this order stays the filing of an Amended Complaint pursuant to Labor Code Section 2699.3(a)(2)(C) by a plaintiff wishing to add a Private Attorney General Act ("PAGA") claim.

For information on electronic filing in the Complex Courts, please refer to <https://www.lacourt.org/division/efiling/efiling2.aspx#civil>. See, in particular, the link therein for "Complex Civil efilng." Parties shall file all documents in conformity with the Presiding Judge's First Amended General Order of May 3, 2019, particularly including the provisions therein requiring Bookmarking with links to primary documents and citations; that Order is available on the Court's website at the link shown above.

For efficiency in communication with counsel, the complex program requires the parties in every new case to use an approved third-party cloud service that provides an electronic message board. In order to facilitate communication with counsel prior to the Initial Status Conference, the parties must sign-up with the e-service provider at least ten (10) court days in advance of the Initial Status Conference and advise the Court which provider was selected.

The court has implemented LACourtConnect to allow attorneys, self-represented litigants and parties to make audio or video appearances in Los Angeles County courtrooms. LACourtConnect technology provides a secure, safe and convenient way to attend hearings remotely. A key element of the Court's Access LACourt YOUR WAY program to provide services and access to justice, LACourtConnect is intended to enhance social distancing and change the traditional in-person courtroom appearance model. See <https://my.lacourt.org/laccwelcome> for more information.

This Complex Courtroom does not use Los Angeles Superior Court's Court Reservation ("CRS") portal to reserve motion hearing dates. Rather, counsel may secure dates by calling the Courtroom Assistant at 213-310-70xx with the "xx" being the Department number, e.g. Dept. 1 is 01 and Dept. 10 is 10.

Court reporters are not provided for hearings or trials. The parties should make their own arrangements for any hearing where a transcript is desired.

If you believe a party or witness will need an interpreter, see the court's website for information on how to make such a request in a timely manner. <https://www.lacourt.org/irud/UI/index.aspx>

Counsel are directed to access the following link for further information on procedures in the

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Courtroom Assistant: M. Molinar

CSR: None
ERM: None
Deputy Sheriff: None

Complex litigation Program courtrooms: <https://www.lacourt.org/division/civil/CI0042.aspx>.

The plaintiff must serve a copy of this minute order and the attached Initial Status Conference Order on all parties forthwith and file a Proof of Service in this department within seven (7) days of service.

PARTIES SHALL FILE A JOINT INITIAL STATUS CONFERENCE REPORT 7 DAYS PRIOR TO THE INITIAL STATUS CONFERENCE.

Certificate of Mailing is attached.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES		Reserved for Clerk's File Stamp <div style="text-align: center;"> FILED Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles 06/06/2024 David W. Slayton, Executive Officer / Clerk of Court By: <u>N. Quispe</u> Deputy </div>
COURTHOUSE ADDRESS: Spring Street Courthouse 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012		
PLAINTIFF/PETITIONER: Younes Younes,		
DEFENDANT/RESPONDENT: Elvira Taylor,		
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING		CASE NUMBER: 24STCV12520

I, the below-named Executive Officer/Clerk of the above-entitled court, do hereby certify that I am not a party to the cause herein, and that on this date I served the Minute Order (Court Order Re: Initial Status Conference Order) of 06/06/2024, Initial Status Conference Order upon each party or counsel named below by placing the document for collection and mailing so as to cause it to be deposited in the United States mail at the courthouse in Los Angeles, California, one copy of the original filed/entered herein in a separate sealed envelope to each address as shown below with the postage thereon fully prepaid, in accordance with standard court practices.

Shaun Patrick Martin
 University of San Diego Law School
 Warren Hall
 5998 Alcala Park
 San Diego, CA 92110

David W. Slayton, Executive Officer / Clerk of Court

Dated: 06/6/2024

By: N. Quispe
 Deputy Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

FILED
Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles

JUN 06 2024

David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court
By: N. QUISPE, Deputy

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

YOUNES YOUNES, on behalf of himself and all
others similarly situated,

Case No.: 24STCV12520

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

INITIAL STATUS CONFERENCE
ORDER
(COMPLEX LITIGATION PROGRAM)

ELVIRA TAYLOR and DOES 1 through 200,
inclusive,

Case Assigned for All purposes to
Judge Elihu M. Berle

Defendant(s),

Department 6
Date: July 18, 2024
Time: 11:00 a.m.

1 This case has been assigned for all purposes to Judge Elihu M. Berle in the
2 Complex Litigation Program. An Initial Status Conference is set for July 18, 2024, at
3 11:00 a.m. in Department 6 located in the Los Angeles Superior Courts at United States
4 Courthouse at 312 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.

5 Plaintiff's counsel is directed to serve a copy of this Initial Status Conference Order
6 on all parties, within five (5) days of service of this order. If any defendant has not yet
7 been served in this action, service is to be completed within twenty (20) days of the date of
8 this order.

9 The Court orders counsel to meet and confer to prepare for the Initial Status
10 Conference by identifying and discussing the central legal and factual issues in the case.
11 Counsel for plaintiff is ordered to initiate contact with counsel for defense to begin this
12 process. Counsel then must negotiate and agree, as possible, on a case management plan.

13 Counsel must file a Joint Initial Status Conference Statement seven (7) calendar
14 days before the Initial Status Conference. The Joint Initial Status Conference Statement
15 must be filed on line-numbered pleading paper and must specifically address each of the
16 below numbered items. Do not use the Judicial Council Form CM-110 (Case Management
17 Statement).

- 18 **1. PARTIES AND COUNSEL:** Please list all presently named plaintiffs
19 and/or class representatives and presently named defendants, together with all
20 counsel of record, including counsel's contact and email information.
- 21 **2. ELECTRONIC SERVICE OF PAPERS:** for administrative efficiency
22 and conservation of resource for the parties and court, the complex program
23 requires the parties in every new case to use a third-party cloud service, such as:
24 ■ Case Anywhere (www.caseanywhere.com),
25 ■ CaseHomePage (www.casehomepage.com), or
26 ■ File&ServeXpress (www.lexisnexis.com/fileandserve).

27 The parties are to select one of these vendors and submit the parties' choice
28 when filing the Joint Initial Status Conference Statement. If the parties cannot

1 agree, the court will select the vendor at the Initial Status Conference.

2 Electronic service is not the same as electronic filing.

3 **3. CLAIMS AND DEFENSES:** Set forth a brief description of the core factual
4 and legal issues, derived from Plaintiff's claims and defendant's defenses.

5 **4. POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL PARTIES:** Does any plaintiff presently
6 intend to add more plaintiffs and/or class representatives? If so, and if known, by what
7 date and by what name will these parties be identified? Does any plaintiff presently intend
8 to name more defendants? If so, and if known, by what date and by what name will these
9 defendants be identified? Does any appearing defendant presently intend to file a cross-
10 complaint? If so, who will be named as a cross-defendant and what are the specific cross
11 claims to be asserted?

12 **5. IMPROPERLY NAMED DEFENDANT(S):** Does any party contend that
13 the complaint names the wrong person or entity, please explain.

14 **6. (For class actions) ADEQUACY OF PROPOSED CLASS**
15 **REPRESENTATIVE(S):** Does any party contend one or more named plaintiffs might
16 not be an adequate class representative. If so, please explain.

17 **7. (For class actions) FOR CLASS ACTIONS ESTIMATED SIZE:** What is
18 the estimated size of the putative class?

19 **8. (For class actions) OTHER ACTIONS WITH OVERLAPPING CLASS**
20 **DEFINITIONS:** Are there other cases with overlapping class definitions? If so, please
21 identify the court, the short caption title, the docket number, and the case status.

22 **9. ARBITRATION AGREEMENTS AND/OR CLASS ACTION**
23 **WAIVER CLAUSES:** Does any party contend there is an arbitration agreement and/or
24 class action waiver. If so, please discuss.

25 **10. POTENTIAL EARLY CRUCIAL MOTIONS:** Are there any issues that
26 can be identified and resolved early. If so, please identify and set forth proposed
27 procedures for resolution.

28

1 **PLEASE NOTE:** By stipulation a party may move for summary adjudication
2 of a legal issues or a claim for damages that does not completely dispose of a cause of
3 action, an affirmative defense, or an issue of duty. (C.C.P. § 437c(t)).

4 **11. PROTECTIVE ORDERS:** Parties considering an order to protect
5 confidential information from general disclosure should consider the model protective
6 orders found on the Los Angeles Superior Court Website under “Civil Tools for
7 Litigators.”

8 **12. DISCOVERY:** Counsel are to discuss a plan of discovery. In class actions,
9 prior to class certification, the court generally allows discovery on matters relevant to class
10 certification, which depending on circumstances, sometimes may include some factual
11 issues also touching the merits.

12 **13. INSURANCE COVERAGE:** Please state (1) if there is insurance for
13 indemnity or reimbursement, and (2) whether there are any insurance coverage issues
14 which might affect settlement.

15 **14. ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION:** Counsel are requested to
16 discuss ADR and proposed neutrals to conduct such proceedings.

17 **15. TIMELINE FOR CASE MANAGEMENT:** Counsel to propose future
18 dates for:

- 19 ■ The next status conference,
- 20 ■ A schedule for alternative dispute resolution,
- 21 ■ A filing deadline for the motion for class certification, and
- 22 ■ Filing deadlines and descriptions for other anticipated non-discovery motions.

23 **PENDING FURTHER ORDERS OF THIS COURT,** and except as otherwise
24 provided in this Initial Status Conference Order, these proceedings are stayed, except for
25 service of summons and complaint and filing of Notice of Appearance. This stay shall
26 preclude the filing of any answer, demurrer, motion to strike, or motions challenging the
27 jurisdiction of the Court. Each defendant should file a Notice of Appearance for purposes
28 of identification of counsel and preparation of a service list. The filing such a Notice of

1 Appearance shall be without prejudice to any challenge to the jurisdiction of the Court,
2 substantive or procedural challenges to the Complaint, any affirmative defense, and the
3 filing of any cross-complaint in this action. This stay is issued to assist the Court and the
4 parties in managing this "complex" case. Although the stay applied to discovery, this stay
5 shall not preclude the parties from informally exchanging documents that may assist in
6 their initial evaluation of the issues presented in this case.

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11 **ELIHU M. BERLE**

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13 Dated: June 6, 2024

14 HON. ELIHU M. BERLE
15 JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
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