

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

RALPH COLEMAN, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

GAVIN NEWSOM, et al.,

Defendants.

No. 2:90-cv-0520 KJM DB P

ORDER

On December 11, 1995, the court entered an order referring this matter to a Special Master and directing that the Special Master's fees and expenses be borne by the defendants as part of the costs of this action. A significant amount of work remains to be done by the Special Master and additional funds are required to pay his fees and expenses.

The court must take all steps necessary to ensure timely payment of the Special Master's fees and expenses. On February 4, 2020, the court increased the required deposit in light of the increase in both the Special Master's workload and his staff. *See* ECF No. 6455. Exigent circumstances presented by the novel coronavirus pandemic and ongoing outstanding remedial issues require a further increase in the amount of the deposit required by this order.¹

¹ In particular, the February 2020 bill for services is now pending before the court and the March 2020 bill for services is due this week. The uncertainties regarding the remedial path of this action in view of the issues that remain outstanding, and the novel coronavirus pandemic, occasioning formation of a special task force supervised by the Special Master, require a substantial increase in the deposit required by this order in particular.

Accordingly, good cause appearing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Within thirty days from the date of this order, defendants shall deposit with the Clerk of the Court a one hundred and thirty-fourth interim payment of costs in the amount of **\$2,000,000.00**, which amount shall be invested in the interest-bearing account previously opened for this action; and

2. The Clerk of the Court is directed to serve a copy of this order on the Financial Department of this Court.

DATED: April 7, 2020.


CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE