

Tentative Rulings for March 24, 2026
Department 501

For any matter where an oral argument is requested and any party to the hearing desires a remote appearance, such request must be timely submitted to and approved by the hearing judge. In this department, the remote appearance will be conducted through Zoom. If approved, please provide the department's clerk a correct email address. (CRC 3.672, Fresno Sup.C. Local Rule 1.1.19)

There are no tentative rulings for the following cases. The hearing will go forward on these matters. If a person is under a court order to appear, he/she must do so. Otherwise, parties should appear unless they have notified the court that they will submit the matter without an appearance. (See California Rules of Court, rule 3.1304(c).) *The above rule also applies to cases listed in this "must appear" section.*

The court has continued the following cases. The deadlines for opposition and reply papers will remain the same as for the original hearing date.

(Tentative Rulings begin at the next page)

Tentative Rulings for Department 501

Begin at the next page

(03)

Tentative Ruling

Re: **Chavez v. Rodriguez**
Case No. 25CECG02687

Hearing Date: March 24, 2026 (Dept. 501)

Motion: by Plaintiff to Compel Initial Defendants Beal Developments, LLC and Baljit Singh to Serve Responses to Form Interrogatories, Set One, Requests for Admissions, Set One, and to Deem Matters in Requests for Admissions to be Admitted, and for Sanctions

Tentative Ruling:

To grant plaintiff's motions to compel defendants Beal Developments, LLC, and Baljit Singh to serve verified responses without objections to the form interrogatories, set one, and requests for admissions, set one. Defendants shall serve verified responses without objections within ten days of the date of service of this order.

To find that defendants Beal and Singh have admitted the truth of the matters in the requests for admissions, set one, unless defendants serve verified, code-compliant responses before the hearing.

To order defendants Beal and Singh to pay sanctions. Each defendant shall pay sanctions of \$480 to plaintiff's counsel within 30 days of the date of service of this order.

If oral argument is timely requested, such argument will be entertained on Friday, March 27, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., in Department 501.

Explanation:

The court intends to grant the motions to compel defendants Beal Developments and Baljit Singh to provide initial responses to requests for production, set one, and form interrogatories, set one, as defendants have failed to serve responses within the statutory time for answering. (Code Civ. Proc., §§ 2030.290, subd. (b); 2031.300, subd. (b).) The court also intends to find that defendants have admitted the matters in the requests for admissions by failing to answer within the statutory time period, unless defendants serve code-compliant responses before the hearing. (Code Civ. Proc., § 2033.280, subd. (b).) In addition, defendants have waived any objections to the discovery requests by failing to answer. (Code Civ. Proc., §§ 2030.290, subd. (a); 2031.300, subd. (a); 2033.280, subd. (a).)

Furthermore, defendants are subject to monetary sanctions for their unjustified failure to answer. (Code Civ. Proc., §§ 2030.290, subd. (c); 2031.300, subd. (c); 2033.280, subd. (c).) However, the court will reduce the amount of sanctions to a more reasonable number, as it should not have taken plaintiff's counsel four hours to draft the motions. The

(35)

Tentative Ruling

Re: **Ramirez v. Cruz-Page et al.**
Superior Court Case No. 24CECG02067

Hearing Date: March 24, 2026 (Dept. 501)

Motion: Petition to Compromise Minor's Claim x2

Tentative Ruling:

To grant each of the Petitions for Ana Ramirez and Aldo Ramirez. The proposed Orders have been or will be signed. No appearances are necessary.

To set a status conference for Wednesday, June 24, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. in Department 501, for confirmation of deposit of the funds into a blocked account. If Acknowledgments of Receipt of Order and Funds for Deposit in Blocked Account (MC-356), at least five court days before the hearing, the status conference will come off calendar.

If oral argument is timely requested, such argument will be entertained on Friday, March 27, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., in Department 501.

Explanation:

Each of the Petitions carry the same type of issue regarding Item 12, which reports medical expenses. The court notes with concern that the medical care provided for the incidents that underline plaintiffs' claims is Medi-Cal involved. In spite of Medi-Cal's involvement, it appears that EMP Partners of Madera, for whatever reason, billed plaintiffs separately, and without Medi-Cal's involvement. The circumstances for the decision is not clear from the Petitions. To the extent that plaintiffs may have pendent or subsequent claims, those matters exceed the scope of these Petitions. Based on the evidence submitted, the court will grant the Petitions.

Pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 3.1312(a), and Code of Civil Procedure section 1019.5, subdivision (a), no further written order is necessary. The minute order adopting this tentative ruling will serve as the order of the court and service by the clerk will constitute notice of the order.

Tentative Ruling

Issued By: DTT on 3/20/2026.
(Judge's initials) (Date)