

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

CIVIL MINUTES - GENERAL

Case No. CV 99-02829 AHM (CWx) Date March 10, 2011
Title JOHN GARAMENDI v. ALTUS FINANCE, S.A., et al.

Present: The Honorable A. HOWARD MATZ, U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE

Stephen Montes

Not Reported

Deputy Clerk

Court Reporter / Recorder

Tape No.

Attorneys **NOT** Present for Plaintiffs:

Attorneys **NOT** Present for Defendants:

Proceedings: IN CHAMBERS (No Proceedings Held)

The Court understands why counsel have requested a trial setting conference. The Court also understands (and shares) their apparent frustration at the lengthy duration of this case. However, the duration is primarily attributable to the parties' failure to resolve the matter consensually, to what happened (or did not happen) at the first trial, to the parties' (and the Court's) difficulty in complying with the Ninth Circuit's mandate for remand (which, as both sides have acknowledged, is far from clear), and to their propensity to file and strenuously litigate an extraordinary number of complicated motions (the last remaining categories of which motions the Court is actively working on).

This Court, like all the judges in this district, is doing its best to manage a very large and demanding docket, along with many court administration responsibilities. As just one reflection, the Court is presiding over three major, Mexican Mafia-related criminal gang cases involving a total of 108 defendants.

At the earliest, the trial will commence in the late autumn 2011, but the Court will not set a trial date until and unless it is certain that it will not be forced to continue it. The Court will convene a trial setting conference at which counsel can "weigh in" about the trial date and related requirements, but that conference will not be set until the Court rules on the pending motions *in limine* and gets past numerous other pressing calendar challenges.

Initials of Preparer

SMO