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1  
2 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
3 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

4 MS. L, et al.,

5 Petitioners-Plaintiffs,

6 vs.

7 U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS  
8 ENFORCEMENT, et al.,

9 Respondents-Defendants.

Case No. 3:18-cv-0428 DMS MDD

**JOINT STATEMENT REGARDING  
SETTLEMENT PROCEDURES**

1 On February 8, 2021, the Court ordered the parties to provide the Court with their  
2 positions “on how the President’s February 2, 2021 ‘Executive Order on the  
3 Establishment of Interagency Task Force on the Reunification of Families’ affects this  
4 case.” ECF No. 573. On February 24, 2021, Defendants informed the Court that the  
5 Task Force was “actively meeting and intends to consult with Plaintiffs and other  
6 stakeholders who have been involved in the reunification process [in order to] develop  
7 more comprehensive plans regarding how it will move forward.” ECF No. 574 at 5.  
8 Defendants therefore asked the Court to allow them to file a further update on March  
9 10, 2021. *Id.* On March 4, 2021, the Court ordered that “[c]ounsel shall submit their  
10 status update on the Task Force’s effect on this litigation on or before March 10, 2021.”  
11 ECF No. 577, ¶ 1.

12 In accordance with the Court’s order, the parties inform the Court that they have  
13 agreed to enter into settlement negotiations. The parties have agreed that the Task Force  
14 will continue with its work during settlement negotiations, and it is the parties’ hope  
15 that these settlement discussions, conducted in conjunction with the work of the Task  
16 Force, will eventually resolve many or all of the outstanding issues in litigation. In  
17 furtherance of their agreement, the parties intend to reach out to the assigned Magistrate  
18 Judge Mitchell Dembin to set an initial settlement conference as soon as feasible. The  
19 parties ask that while these discussions are ongoing, the litigation be stayed and all  
20 pending deadlines held in abeyance, with the exception that status conferences shall  
21 continue to be held, with joint status reports in advance of the status conference  
22 addressing current efforts to contact parents find families not yet contacted, and Judge  
23 Sabraw shall retain oversight of such efforts

1 DATED: March 10, 2021

Respectfully submitted,  
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