

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA
SHREVEPORT DIVISION**

DAVID B. MEANS, ET AL.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 5:23-cv-00669

VERSUS

JUDGE DAVID C. JOSEPH

DESOTO PARISH, ET AL.

MAGISTRATE JUDGE HORNSBY

JOINT STATUS REPORT

Pursuant to the Court's instructions at the March 18, 2024 Status Conference, the parties now file their status report to update the Court on the progress of settlement discussions.

On April 4, 2024, the parties' counsel met to confer regarding Plaintiffs' settlement proposal that was transmitted to Defendants on March 15, 2024. Defendants informed Plaintiffs that the earliest they can provide information regarding Defendants' position on the proposal would be April 15, the date that the DeSoto Parish Police Jury will hold an executive session to review the proposal during its regularly scheduled meeting. This in turn will enable the parties to ascertain their willingness to participate in settlement negotiations or mediation. Accordingly, to allow time for further negotiations, the parties request that they be permitted to submit another status report to the Court on or before April 30, 2024, to update the Court on the progress of settlement at that point.

The parties are also conferring regarding a potential joint motion to hold the case in abeyance during the pendency of settlement negotiations. Due to Plaintiffs' approaching April 15, 2024 expert report deadline, Plaintiffs may need to move for an extension of time of that deadline (and perhaps others) in the interim while awaiting Defendants' position on a joint motion.

Dated: April 5, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Reid A. Jones

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on April 5, 2024, I served the foregoing via email on all counsel of record by operation of the Court's CM/ECF filing system.

/s/ Reid A. Jones

Reid A. Jones