UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA
SHREVEPORT DIVISION

DAVID B MEANS ET AL	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 23-669**
VERSUS	**JUDGE EDWARDS**
PARISH OF DESOTO ET AL	**MAG. JUDGE HORNSBY**

MINUTES AND ORDER

A video conference was held on October 20, 2026, starting at 3:30 p.m. and ending at 3:50 p.m.[1] Participating in the conference were Reid Jones, Jason Torchinsky, and Dylan Harper, counsel for plaintiffs, and Claude Reynaud, Thomas Benjamin, and Carroll Devillier, counsel for defendant. The Court convened the conference to adjust the current scheduling order (Doc. 143) due to administrative delays in docketing responses to the Special Master's Initial Report and to discuss compensation of the Special Master.

Based on discussions with the Parties the revised schedule set forth herein will govern this case. The prior scheduling order is **VACATED.**

The Court informed the Parties, that the Special Master has submitted an invoice for time and expenses in the preparation of his proposed plan and initial report. A copy of this invoice is attached as Exhibit A. This invoice reflects a total cost of $109,991.25. Pursuant to the Court's Order issued on August 10, 2026, (Doc. 135), the Parish of Desoto shall compensate the Special Master in the amount $46,000 for preparation of the proposed plan and initial report.

The Court has determined that it is necessary to compensate the Special Master for collecting, managing, and analyzing responses to his Initial Report and preparing his

[1] Statistical time: 20 minutes.

final report. The Court informed counsel for Defendant that the Special Master shall be compensated up to $30,000, which reflects a rate of $500 per hour for up to 60 hours to complete these tasks. Considering the foregoing,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that

- The Special Master shall submit to the Court a final report and proposed plan by **November, 2, 2026**. The final report shall be publicly filed with email of the data files sent to the Parties.
- Interested parties shall submit responses to the Court by **November 23, 2026**, which should also be publicly filed with email of data files sent to the Parties and the Special Master.
- The Court will enter an order adopting the Special Master's recommendations, or recommendations as modified based upon the responses filed by the interested parties, by **December 22, 2026.**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Defendant shall pay $46,000 to the Special Master for preparation of the proposed plan and initial report within thirty (30) days of this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that notice is hereby given to the Defendant that the Parish of Desoto shall bear the additional costs for the Special Master up to $30,000 to collect, manage, and analyze responses to his Initial Report, and prepare his final report. Any response to this Order shall be filed no later than November 10, 2026.

JERRY EDWARDS, JR.
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Thomas M. Bryan

15161 Deep Spring Drive
Montpelier, VA 23192
425-466-9749
tom@bryangeodemo.com

September 22, 2026

Hon. Jerry Edwards, Jr.
United States District Judge
515 Murray St., Suite 233
Alexandria, Louisiana 71301
(318) 484-1210
edwards_motions@lawd.uscourts.gov

RE: *Means v. DeSoto Parish* Special Master Invoice

Judge Edwards,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the special master in *Means v. DeSoto*.

In this invoice, I am reporting 270.5 hours and a fee of $108,331.25 (See Appendix 1).

Additionally, I incurred travel costs of $1,660 for my visit to Shreveport and DeSoto Parish from August 19-22, 2026 (See Appendix 2 and 3).

Total project costs are $109,991.25. Per our agreement, I am capping this at our total project fee of $46,000.

Best regards,

Thomas



APPENDIX 1: *Means v. DeSoto* Invoice Detail

Date	Total Hours	Total Fees	Description
8/11/2026	2.25	$1,125.00	Created workspace and GIS setup. Downloaded precincts, court correspondence, and case-related materials. Contacted parties' counsel.
8/12/2026	4.25	$1,875.00	Downloaded case documents. Reviewed case documents and history, researched precincts. Contacted DeSoto Registrar Amanda Raynes. Built block assignments for DeSoto geography.
8/13/2026	5.25	$1,812.50	Reviewed case documents and DeSoto history. Refined block assignments for DeSoto geography.
8/14/2026	2.50	$1,250.00	Reviewed case documents. Researched DeSoto history. Follow-up call with Amanda Raynes on plans and precincts. Began assessing the intersection of 2026 precincts, places and prior plans.
8/15/2026	5.25	$2,625.00	Reviewed case documents and DeSoto history. Began BGD1 draft plan.
8/17/2026	3.50	$1,750.00	Reviewed case documents. Researched DeSoto history. Scheduled meetings in DeSoto, worked on BGD1 draft plan ideas.
8/18/2026	4.50	$1,750.00	Scheduled meetings in DeSoto, worked on BGD1 draft plan ideas. Began setting up compactness and splits analysis.
8/19/2026	7.50	$3,750.00	Visited Desoto, leadership meetings.
8/20/2026	11.50	$5,750.00	Visited Desoto, leadership meetings, drafted BGD1.
8/21/2026	14.50	$5,850.00	Visited Desoto, leadership meetings, drafted BGD1. Ran polling sites and incubent geocoding.
8/22/2026	9.50	$2,375.00	Researched DeSoto's history. Returned from DeSoto. Drafted BGD 1. Drafted illustrative maps.
8/23/2026	12.75	$5,400.00	Researched DeSoto's history. Drafted BGD 1; began drafting report; developing coincidence, compactness, and contiguity analyses.
8/24/2026	11.50	$4,500.00	Researched DeSoto's history. Drafted BGD 1; began drafting report; developing coincidence, compactness, and contiguity analyses.
8/25/2026	6.75	$3,375.00	Researched DeSoto's history. Call with DeSoto leadership. Calls with parties' counsel. Began drafting the BGD2 plan and report.
8/26/2026	7.50	$3,750.00	Historical research. Drafted the BGD2 plan and report. Incumbent location verifications.
8/27/2026	8.25	$3,425.00	Historical research. Drafted the BGD2 plan and report. Polling site corrections.
8/28/2026	14.00	$4,187.50	Historical research. Drafted the BGD2 plan and report.
8/29/2026	12.50	$4,543.75	Historical research. Drafted the BGD2 plan and report, DeSoto geographic analysis.
8/30/2026	10.25	$4,462.50	Historical research. Drafted the BGD2 plan and report, DeSoto geographic analysis.
8/31/2026	17.75	$5,625.00	Historical research. Drafted the BGD2 plan and report, DeSoto geographic analysis.
9/1/2026	15.75	$5,162.50	Historical research. Drafted the BGD2 plan and report. Executed registered voters geocoding.
9/2/2026	4.75	$1,975.00	Drafted the BGD2 plan and report, reviewed compactness, splits, and registered voter analysis.
9/3/2026	7.00	$1,300.00	Drafted the BGD2 plan and report, reviewed compactness, splits, and registered voter analysis.
9/4/2026	1.25	$625.00	Drafted the BGD2 plan and report, reviewed compactness, splits, and registered voter analysis.
9/6/2026	5.50	$1,850.00	Drafted the BGD2 plan and report.
9/7/2026	4.75	$2,293.75	Drafted the BGD2 plan and report. Revised and edited incumbent map.
9/8/2026	11.50	$4,431.25	BGD2 plan substantially complete. Conference with the judge; drafted maps. Finalized coincidence and compactness analysis. Began drafting plan and district maps.
9/9/2026	4.50	$2,250.00	Drafted report, demographic analysis.
9/10/2026	3.25	$1,625.00	Drafted report, demographic analysis.
9/11/2026	2.50	$1,087.50	Drafted report, edited the registered voter map, examined non-place voter locations.
9/13/2026	1.50	$750.00	Drafted report, demographic analysis.
9/14/2026	5.25	$2,625.00	Drafted report, demographic analysis.
9/15/2026	11.25	$3,175.00	Drafted report, QC report; drafted and revised maps.
9/16/2026	2.50	$1,250.00	Drafted report, QC report; drafted and revised maps.
9/17/2026	2.00	$1,000.00	Drafted report, QC report; drafted and revised maps.
9/18/2026	2.75	$1,375.00	Drafted report, QC report.
9/19/2026	4.50	$2,250.00	Drafted report, QC report.
9/20/2026	3.50	$1,750.00	Drafted report, QC report.
9/21/2026	2.75	$1,375.00	Drafted report, QC report.
9/22/2026	2.00	$1,000.00	Finalize report.and deliver report.
	270.50	**$108,331.25**	

Appendix 2 Travel Expense Summary

DeSoto Louisiana		Hotel	Flight / Train	Rental Car	Gas	Parking	MIE
8/18/2026	**$1,660.00**	$534.00	$550.00				$51.00
8/19/2026							$68.00
8/20/2026							$68.00
8/21/2026				$250.00	$48.00	$40.00	$51.00

Note: meals and incidental expenses are invoiced per the GSA MIE schedule for Shreveport, including adjustments for the first and last day of travel.

https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates/per-diem-rates-results?action=perdiems_report&city=&fiscal_year=2025&state=LA&zip=

Appendix 3 Travel Receipts



RaceWay 6802
3701 Hearne Ave
Shreveport, LA 71107

Tax	Description	Qty	Amount
Unl-87	No. 8		
	13.059 G @ $3.699/ G		$48.31
	Sub Total		$48.31
	Tax:		$0.00
	Total		**$48.31**
	American Express:		$48.31
	Change		$0.00

Capture

American Express
XXXXXXXXXX4007
Chip Read

USD$ 48.31

AMERICAN EXPRESS
Mode: Issuer
AID:
A0000000025010801
TVR: 0000008000
IAD: XXXXXXXXXXXXX
TSI: E800
ARC: 00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR VISIT
RICHMOND INTL. AIRPORT
RECEIPT A17

ENTRY TIME:
08/19/26 05:04
EXIT TIME:
08/22/26 17:40
PARK-DUR.: HRS:MIN
3:12:36
AMOUNT:
$ 40.00
TICKET-No: 90542052

KIND OF PAYMENT:

Capital Region Airport Comm
1 RICHARD E BYRD TRM DR
Richmond, VA 23250

----------EFTPOS----------
22 Aug 26 17:40

AMEX	ICC CONTACT
AID	A0000000025010801
APP LABEL	AMERICAN EXPRESS
CARD	**********4007
PAN SEQ Number	00
RRN	623421664786
AUTHORIZATION	820201
REFERENCE	038586
PURCHASE	USD40.00
TOTAL	USD40.00

APPROVED

NO CARDHOLDER VERIFICATION

Appendix 3 Travel Receipts Continued

Hotels.com

Receipt

Hotels.com itinerary: 72078158930945

Purchase date: Aug 18, 2026

Booking details

Margaritaville Resort Casino

777 Margaritaville Way, Bossier City, LA, 71111 United States of America

Check in: Aug 19, 2026

Check out: Aug 22, 2026

1 room x 3 nights

Deluxe Room, 1 King Bed, Non Smoking, City View

Booked for: Thomas Bryan

Payment details

Room price

Wed, Aug 19	$118.99
Thu, Aug 20	$84.99
Fri, Aug 21	$212.49
Taxes	$66.63
Resort fee Payable at property	$44.15
Fees Payable at property	$7.06
Total	**$534.31**

Appendix 3 Travel Receipts Continued

Date of Purchase: Aug 14, 2026

Flight Receipt for Richmond, VA to Shreveport, LA

PASSENGER INFORMATION

THOMAS M BRYAN
SkyMiles Number: [redacted]

Confirmation Number: H89OQY
Ticket Number: 0062455827061

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Date and Flight	Status	Class	Seat/Cabin
RIC>ATL Wed 19Aug2026 DL 1402	BRD	SU	CMAIN
ATL>SHV Wed 19Aug2026 DL 3507	BRD	OU	CMAIN
SHV>ATL Sat 22Aug2026 DL 5302	BRD	OU	CMAIN
ATL>RIC Sat 22Aug2026 DL 3152	BRD	SU	CMAIN

DETAILED CHARGES

Air Transportation Charges	
Base Fare:	$465.12 USD
Taxes, Fees & Charges:	
United States - September 11th Security Fee(Passenger Civil Aviation Security Service Fee) (AY)	$11.20 USD
United States - Transportation Tax (US)	$34.88 USD
United States - Passenger Facility Charge (XF)	$18.00 USD
United States - Flight Segment Tax (ZP)	$21.20 USD
Total Price:	**$550.40 USD**

Appendix 3 Travel Receipts Continued

Here's your Updated Thrifty Rental Car Receipt

VIEW UPDATED RECEIPT

		# 01 RN	RR			836861185
			RES			L684EAE48E5

THOMASM BRYAN

INITIAL CHARGES

RENT RT	$	64.67/ DAY	@		3/ DAYS	$ 194.01
SUBTOTAL						T $194.01ff

CHARGES ADDED DURING RENTAL

LDW	DECLINED
LIS	DECLINED
PAI, PEC	DECLINED
PREM RD SVC	DECLINED
* ADDITIONAL CHARGES	

SERVICE CHARGES/TAXES

CONCESSION FEE RECOVERY			13.63 %	T $	26.44
FREQUENT FLYER SURCHARGE				T $	.64
VEHICLE LICENSE COST RECOVERY				T $	.81
TAX	12.600%	ON TAXABLE TTL OF $	221.90	$	27.96

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8/23/26, 8:50 AM Yahoo Mail - Thrifty Updated Rental Receipt

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE $ **249.86**