

UNPUBLISHED

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT**

No. 18-2307

EDMOND MACHIE,

Plaintiff - Appellant,

v.

HELEN THERESE CLEMENS; ARLINGTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT,
Stephen A. MacIsaac, Office of the County Attorney,

Defendants - Appellees.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, at
Alexandria. Leonie M. Brinkema, District Judge. (1:18-cv-01179-LMB-IDD)

Submitted: February 26, 2019

Decided: February 28, 2019

Before KING, THACKER, and QUATTLEBAUM, Circuit Judges.

Affirmed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

Edmond Machie, Appellant Pro Se.

Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.

PER CURIAM:

Edmond Machie appeals the district court's orders dismissing his civil complaint without prejudice and requiring him to file an amended complaint, dismissing his complaint with prejudice for failure to comply with its prior order, and denying his motion for reconsideration.* With respect to the district court's dismissal orders, we have reviewed the record and find no reversible error. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a) (pleading standard); Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b) (authorizing dismissal for failure to comply with court order); *Martin v. Duffy*, 858 F.3d 239, 248 (4th Cir. 2017) (discussing pleading standard), *cert. denied*, 138 S. Ct. 738 (2018); *Ballard v. Carlson*, 882 F.2d 93, 95-96 (4th Cir. 1989) (reviewing Rule 41(b) dismissal for abuse of discretion). Accordingly, we affirm those orders for the reasons stated by the district court. *Machie v. Clemens*, No. 1:18-cv-01179-LMB-IDD (E.D. Va. filed & entered Sept. 17, 2018; filed Sept. 25 & entered Sept. 26, 2018).

The district court should have construed Machie's motion for reconsideration as a Fed. R. Civ. P. 59(e) motion, rather than a Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(b) motion, as it was filed within 28 days of the entry of judgment. *See Robinson v. Wix Filtration Corp.*, 599 F.3d 403, 412 & n.11 (4th Cir. 2010); *see also* Fed. R. Civ. P. 59(e) (providing current time

* Because the document construed as Machie's notice of appeal was filed on October 24, 2018, within 30 days of the entry of judgment on September 26, 2018, Machie's appeal of the dismissal orders is timely. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(a)(1)(A). Further, although Machie did not file a new or amended notice of appeal from the district court's order denying his motion for reconsideration, *see* Fed. R. App. P. 4(a)(4)(A), (B)(ii), we conclude that Machie's informal brief serves as the functional equivalent of a notice of appeal from that order, *see Smith v. Barry*, 502 U.S. 244, 248-49 (1992).

limit for filing motion to alter or amend). Nevertheless, because Machie's motion failed to demonstrate any ground that would entitle him to relief pursuant to Rule 59(e), we conclude that the district court did not abuse its discretion in denying the motion. *See Wilkins v. Montgomery*, 751 F.3d 214, 220 (4th Cir. 2014) (standard of review); *Robinson*, 599 F.3d at 407 (describing grounds for Rule 59(e) relief). Accordingly, we affirm the order denying postjudgment relief.

We dispense with oral argument because the facts and legal contentions are adequately presented in the materials before this court and argument would not aid the decisional process.

AFFIRMED