

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

IVAN G. MCKINNEY,	:	
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	Civ. No. 18-12987 (FLW) (LHG)
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
SGT FITZGERALD et al.,	:	<b>MEMORANDUM OPINION</b>
	:	
Defendants.	:	
	:	

**FREDA L. WOLFSON, U.S.D.J.**

Plaintiff, Ivan G. McKinney (“McKinney” or “Plaintiff”), a state prisoner, filed *pro se* with the Court a complaint alleging claims under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. The filing fee for a civil complaint is \$400.00. If a prisoner plaintiff is proceeding *in forma pauperis*, the fee is \$350.00, subject to being paid in installments as described below.

A prisoner who seeks to proceed *in forma pauperis* must submit an affidavit, including a statement of all assets, stating that the prisoner is unable to pay the applicable filing fee. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(1). The prisoner must also submit a certified copy of his inmate trust fund account statement for the six-month period immediately preceding the filing of his complaint. *See id.* § 1915(a)(2). The prisoner must obtain this statement from the appropriate official of each prison at which he was or is confined. *See id.*

Even if a prisoner is granted *in forma pauperis* status, he must pay the full amount of the filing fee of \$350.00. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). In each month that the amount in the prisoner’s account exceeds \$10.00, the agency having custody of the prisoner shall assess, deduct from the prisoner’s account, and forward to the Clerk of the Court, payment equal to 20% of the

preceding month's income credited to the prisoner's account. *See id.* § 1915(b)(2). The deductions will continue until the \$350.00 filing fee is paid.

Even if the necessary fees are paid and the complaint is accepted for filing, the Court may nevertheless immediately dismiss the case. The Court must review the complaint and dismiss it if it finds that the action (1) is frivolous or malicious, (2) fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, or (3) seeks monetary relief against a defendant who is immune from such relief. *See id.* § 1915(e)(2)(B); *see also id.* § 1915A(b).

If the plaintiff has, on three or more prior occasions while incarcerated, brought an action or appeal in a court that was dismissed on any of the grounds listed above, he cannot bring another action *in forma pauperis* unless he is in imminent danger of serious physical injury. *See id.* § 1915(g).

In this case, McKinney has submitted a copy of his inmate trust account statement, but that statement is not certified by a prison official and McKinney has not filed an affidavit with statement of assets, as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1915. Accordingly, his request to proceed *in forma pauperis* will be denied without prejudice. The Clerk will be ordered to administratively close this case. Plaintiff may reopen this action, however, by either paying the filing fee or submitting a complete *in forma pauperis* application.

DATED: October 17, 2018

/s/ Freda L. Wolfson  
FREDA L. WOLFSON  
United States District Judge