

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

FILED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

APR 28 2021

FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK  
U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

JOSIAH ENGLISH III,

No. 20-15969

Plaintiff-

D.C. No. 2:19-cv-01087-GMS-JZB

Appellant,

v.

MEMORANDUM\*

HOUSE, First Name Unknown; et al.,

Defendants-

Appellees,

and

HUGHES, First Name Unknown; et al.,

Defendants.

Appeal from the United States District Court  
for the District of Arizona  
G. Murray Snow, District Judge, Presiding

Submitted April 20, 2021\*\*

Before: THOMAS, Chief Judge, TASHIMA and SILVERMAN, Circuit Judges.

---

\* This disposition is not appropriate for publication and is not precedent except as provided by Ninth Circuit Rule 36-3.

\*\* The panel unanimously concludes this case is suitable for decision without oral argument. *See* Fed. R. App. P. 34(a)(2).

Josiah English III appeals pro se from the district court's judgment dismissing his 42 U.S.C. § 1983 action alleging constitutional claims arising from the violation of his attorney-client privilege. We have jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1291. We review de novo dismissal under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A. *Resnick v. Hayes*, 213 F.3d 443, 447 (9th Cir. 2000). We affirm.

The district court properly dismissed English's action because English failed to allege facts sufficient to state a plausible claim. *See Hebbe v. Pliler*, 627 F.3d 338, 341-42 (9th Cir. 2010) (although pro se pleadings are construed liberally, a plaintiff must present factual allegations sufficient to state a plausible claim for relief); *see also Polk County v. Dodson*, 454 U.S. 312, 317-19, 325 (1981) (a private attorney or a public defender does not act under color of state law within the meaning of § 1983); *Monell v. Dep't of Soc. Servs.*, 436 U.S. 658, 694 (1978) (municipal liability under § 1983 requires execution of policy or custom that inflicts plaintiff's constitutional injury); *Partington v. Gedan*, 961 F.2d 852, 863 (9th Cir. 1992) (attorney-client privilege is not a constitutional right except in the criminal context under the Sixth Amendment; a plaintiff must show that he was "substantially prejudiced").

**AFFIRMED.**