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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

Ronald Smith,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
Maricopa County Jail, et al.,  
Defendants.

No. CV 08-2289-PHX-MHM (DKD)

**ORDER**

Plaintiff Ronald Smith, who is confined in the Towers Jail in Phoenix, Arizona, filed a *pro se* civil rights Complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and an Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*. (Doc.# 1, 3.)<sup>1</sup> Plaintiff then filed a First Amended Complaint and another Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*. (Doc.# 4, 5.) The First Amended Complaint supercedes the Complaint in its entirety and the Complaint is not considered by the Court. The Court will dismiss the First Amended Complaint with leave to amend. (Doc.# 4.)

**I. Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* and Filing Fee**

Plaintiff’s first Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* will be granted, doc.# 3, and the second will be denied as moot, doc.# 5. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a). Plaintiff must pay the statutory filing fee of \$350.00. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). The Court will not assess an initial partial filing fee. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). The statutory fee will be collected monthly in

<sup>1</sup> “Doc.#” refers to the docket number of filings in this case.

1 payments of 20% of the previous month's income each time the amount in the account  
2 exceeds \$10.00. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(2). The Court will enter a separate Order requiring the  
3 appropriate government agency to collect and forward the fees according to the statutory  
4 formula.

## 5 **II. Statutory Screening of Prisoner Complaints**

6 The Court is required to screen complaints brought by prisoners seeking relief against  
7 a governmental entity or an officer or an employee of a governmental entity. 28 U.S.C.  
8 § 1915A(a). The Court must dismiss a complaint or portion thereof if a plaintiff has raised  
9 claims that are legally frivolous or malicious, that fail to state a claim upon which relief may  
10 be granted, or that seek monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief.  
11 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1), (2). If the Court determines that a pleading could be cured by the  
12 allegation of other facts, a *pro se* litigant is entitled to an opportunity to amend a complaint  
13 before dismissal of the action. See Lopez v. Smith, 203 F.3d 1122, 1127-29 (9th Cir. 2000)  
14 (*en banc*). The Court should not, however, advise the litigant how to cure the defects. This  
15 type of advice "would undermine district judges' role as impartial decisionmakers." Pliler  
16 v. Ford, 542 U.S. 225, 231 (2004); see also Lopez, 203 F.3d at 1131 n.13 (declining to decide  
17 whether the court was required to inform a litigant of deficiencies). Plaintiff's Complaint  
18 will be dismissed for failure to state a claim with leave to amend because the Complaint may  
19 possibly be saved by amendment.

## 20 **III. First Amended Complaint**

21 Plaintiff alleges three counts for relief in which he purports to incorporate claims  
22 alleged in the original Complaint without setting forth any facts in the First Amended  
23 Complaint. Plaintiff sues the Maricopa County Jail, Lower Buckeye Jail "Medical", Fourth  
24 Avenue Jail staff, and "entire medical staff." Plaintiff does not state the relief sought.

## 25 **IV. Failure to Comply with Rules and Instructions in the First Amended Complaint**

26 Plaintiff has failed to comply with the rules and instructions for completing the court-  
27 approved form complaint. Rule 8(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure requires that a  
28 complaint contain "a short and plain statement of [each] claim showing that the pleader is

1 entitled to relief.” Fed.R.Civ.P. Rule 8(e)(1) provides that “[e]ach averment of a pleading  
2 shall be simple, concise, and direct.” Fed.R.Civ.P. To comply with Rule 8, a plaintiff should  
3 set forth “who is being sued, for what relief, and on what theory, with enough detail to guide  
4 discovery.” McHenry v. Renne, 84 F.3d 1172, 1177 (9th Cir. 1996). Under the Local  
5 Rules, a plaintiff may not incorporate by reference claims or allegations contained in a prior  
6 pleading. Instead, he must re-allege all facts and claims for which he seeks relief. LR Civ.  
7 15.1(b) (an “amended pleading is not to incorporate by reference any part of the preceding  
8 pleading[.]”) The Instructions for completing the court-approved form complaint states in  
9 relevant part that:

10 **Local Rule of Civil Procedure (LRCiv) 3.4(a) provides that complaints by**  
11 **incarcerated persons must be filed on the court-approved form.** The form  
12 must be typed or neatly handwritten. *The form must be completely filled in to*  
13 *the extent applicable. All questions must be answered clearly and concisely*  
14 *in the appropriate space on the form.* If needed, you may attach additional  
15 pages, **but no more than fifteen additional pages**, of standard letter-sized  
paper. You must identify which part of the complaint is being continued and  
number all pages. If you do not fill out the form properly, you will be asked  
to submit additional or corrected information, which may delay the processing  
of your action. You do not need to cite law.

16 (Instructions at ¶ 1) (italics added). In addition, the Instructions provide that:

- 17 1. Counts. You must identify which civil right was violated. **You may allege**  
18 **the violation of only one civil right per count.**  
19 2. Issue Involved. *Check the box that most closely identifies the issue involved*  
20 *in your claim. You may check only one box per count. If you check the box*  
21 *marked “Other,” you must identify the specific issue involved.*  
22 3. Supporting Facts. *After you have identified which civil right was violated,*  
23 *you must state the supporting facts. Be as specific as possible. You must state*  
24 *what each individual defendant did to violate your rights. If there is more than*  
25 *one defendant, you must identify which defendant did what act. You also*  
26 *should state the date(s) on which the act(s) occurred, if possible.*  
27 4. Injury. State precisely how you were injured by the alleged violation of  
28 your rights.

24 (Id., part C) (italics added).

25 In the First Amended Complaint, Plaintiff fails to set forth the relief he seeks or how,  
26 when, where, or by whom he believes his constitutional rights were violated. Instead, he  
27 merely purports to incorporate by reference the facts alleged in his Complaint. As stated  
28 above, a plaintiff may not incorporate by reference allegations contained in a prior complaint.

1 The First Amended Complaint otherwise fails to comply with the instruction that “all  
2 questions must be answered clearly and concisely in the appropriate space on the form.” For  
3 these reasons, the First Amended Complaint will be dismissed.

4 Plaintiff will be provided an opportunity to submit a second amended complaint that  
5 complies with the Instructions and rules. Plaintiff should carefully follow the Instructions  
6 in completing a second amended complaint. He should set forth only one claim per count.  
7 For each count, Plaintiff should summarize facts to support the constitutional right violated,  
8 by whom, when and where, and how each defendant violated the right.

9 **V. Failure to State a Claim**

10 In addition to non-compliance with the Instructions and rules, the First Amended  
11 Complaint fails to state a claim. To state a claim under § 1983, a plaintiff must allege facts  
12 supporting that (1) the conduct about which he complains was committed by a person acting  
13 under the color of state law and (2) the conduct deprived him of a federal constitutional or  
14 statutory right. Wood v. Ostrander, 879 F.2d 583, 587 (9th Cir. 1989). In addition, to state  
15 a valid constitutional claim, a plaintiff must allege that he suffered a specific injury as a result  
16 of the conduct of a particular defendant, and he must allege an affirmative link between the  
17 injury and the conduct of that defendant. Rizzo v. Goode, 423 U.S. 362, 371-72, 377 (1976).

18 **A. Failure to Name Proper Defendants**

19 To state a claim under § 1983, a plaintiff must sue a “person” who, acting under color  
20 of state law, violated the plaintiff’s constitutional rights. None of the Defendants named by  
21 Plaintiff is a “person” within the meaning of § 1983.

22 A “person” for purposes of § 1983, includes officials or officers who directly violated  
23 or caused a violation of a plaintiff’s constitutional rights. In addition, a supervisor “is only  
24 liable for constitutional violations of his subordinates if the supervisor participated in or  
25 directed the violations, or knew of the violations and failed to act to prevent them.” Taylor  
26 v. List, 880 F.2d 1040, 1045 (9th Cir. 1989). Further, Rule 10(a) of the Federal Rules of  
27 Civil Procedure requires a plaintiff to include the names of the parties in the action. As a  
28 practical matter, it is impossible in most instances for the United States Marshal or his

1 designee to serve a summons and complaint or amended complaint upon an anonymous or  
2 unnamed defendant. That is, a plaintiff must sue the “persons” responsible, not “staff” or  
3 fictitiously-named defendants.<sup>2</sup>

4 In addition to individual officers, a municipality is also a “person” for purposes of  
5 § 1983, i.e., municipality such as a city or county may be sued.<sup>3</sup> See Leatherman v. Tarrant  
6 County Narcotics Intelligence and Coordination Unit, 507 U.S. 163, 166 (1993); Monell v.  
7 Dep’t of Soc. Servs., 436 U.S. 658, 694 (1978). To state a claim against a municipality under  
8 § 1983, a plaintiff must allege facts to support that his constitutional rights were violated  
9 pursuant to a policy or custom of the municipality. Cortez v. County of Los Angeles, 294  
10 F.3d 1186, 1188 (9th Cir. 2001) (citing Monell, 436 U.S. at 690-91; Thompson v. City of Los  
11 Angeles, 885 F.2d 1439, 1443 (9th Cir. 1989)). Therefore, a plaintiff cannot state a § 1983  
12 claim against a municipal defendant unless he alleges that the municipal defendant  
13 maintained a policy or custom pertinent to the plaintiff’s alleged injury and explains how  
14 such policy or custom caused his injury. Sadoski v. Mosley, 435 F.3d 1076, 1080 (9th Cir.  
15 2006) (affirming dismissal of a municipal defendant pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6)).

16 Plaintiff sues only Jail facilities, or departments thereof, and unidentified “staff.”  
17 None of the Defendants is a “person” within the meaning of § 1983 and they will accordingly  
18 be dismissed.

## 19 **B. Medical Claims**

20 It appears that Plaintiff wishes to seek relief for constitutionally deficient medical  
21 care, although as discussed above, he failed to set forth any facts in support any claim. For  
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23 <sup>2</sup> The Ninth Circuit has held that where identity is unknown prior to the filing of a  
24 complaint, the plaintiff should be given an opportunity through discovery to identify the  
25 unknown defendants, unless it is clear that discovery would not uncover the identities, or that  
26 the complaint would be dismissed on other grounds. Wakefield v. Thompson, 177 F.3d  
1160, 1163 (9th Cir. 1999) (citing Gillespie v. Civiletti, 629 F.2d 637, 642 (9th Cir. 1980)).

27 <sup>3</sup> In Arizona, the responsibility for operating jails and caring for prisoners is placed  
28 by law upon the county sheriff, see A.R.S. §§ 11-441(A)(5), 31-101, while the responsibility  
for providing medical care for prisoners is placed by law on the county, see A.R.S. §§ 11-  
251(8), 11-291(A).

1 that reason, the Court informs Plaintiff of the following requirements to state a claim for  
2 constitutionally deficient medical care.

3 To state a claim for denial of constitutionally adequate medical care, a plaintiff must  
4 allege facts to support that he has or had a serious medical need and that a particular  
5 defendant acted with deliberate indifference to that need. See Estelle v. Gamble, 429 U.S.  
6 97, 104-05 (1976); Lolli v. County of Orange, 351 F.3d 410, 418-19 (9th Cir. 2003). To  
7 allege a serious medical need, a plaintiff must set forth facts to support that the “failure to  
8 treat a prisoner’s condition could result in further significant injury or the ‘unnecessary and  
9 wanton infliction of pain.’” Jett v. Penner, 439 F.3d 1091, 1096 (9th Cir. 2006) (quoting  
10 McGuckin v. Smith, 974 F.2d 1050, 1059 (9th Cir. 1991), overruled on other grounds by  
11 WMX Techs, Inc. v. Miller, 104 F.3d 1133 (9th Cir. 1997) (*en banc*)). A plaintiff must also  
12 allege facts to support that a defendant was deliberately indifferent to a serious medical need.  
13 “Deliberate indifference is a high legal standard.” Toguchi v. Chung, 391 F.3d 1051, 1060  
14 (9th Cir. 2004). Deliberate indifference may occur if “prison officials deny, delay or  
15 intentionally interfere with medical treatment.” Hutchinson v. United States, 838 F.2d 390,  
16 394 (9th Cir.1988). Mere negligence, however, “in diagnosing or treating a medical  
17 condition, without more, does not violate a prisoner’s Eighth Amendment rights.” Lopez,  
18 203 F.3d at 1132 (quoting Hutchinson, 838 F.2d at 394). Further, a delay in receiving  
19 medical care, without more, is insufficient to state a claim against a jailor for deliberate  
20 indifference unless the plaintiff can show that the delay in treatment harmed him. Shapley  
21 v. Nevada Bd. of State Prison Comm’rs, 766 F.2d 404, 407 (9th Cir. 1985). A difference in  
22 medical opinion also does not amount to deliberate indifference. See Toguchi, 391 F.3d at  
23 1058. Rather, to prevail on a claim involving choices between alternative courses of  
24 treatment, a prisoner must show that the chosen course was medically unacceptable under  
25 the circumstances and was chosen in conscious disregard of an excessive risk to the  
26 prisoner’s health. Id. Similarly, differences in judgment between an inmate and prison  
27 medical personnel regarding appropriate medical diagnosis or treatment are not enough to  
28 state a deliberate indifference claim. Sanchez v. Vild, 891 F.2d 240, 242 (9th Cir. 1989).

1 **VI. Leave to Amend**

2 For the foregoing reasons, Plaintiff’s First Amended Complaint will be dismissed for  
3 failure to state a claim upon which relief may be granted. Within 30 days, Plaintiff may  
4 submit a second amended complaint to cure the deficiencies outlined above. The Clerk of  
5 Court will mail Plaintiff a court-approved form to use for filing a second amended complaint.  
6 If Plaintiff fails to use the court-approved form, the Court may strike the amended complaint  
7 and dismiss this action without further notice to Plaintiff.

8 Plaintiff must clearly designate on the face of the document that it is the “Second  
9 Amended Complaint.” The second amended complaint must be retyped or rewritten in its  
10 entirety on the court-approved form and may not incorporate any part of the prior complaints  
11 by reference. Plaintiff may include only one claim per count.

12 A second amended complaint supersedes all prior complaints. Ferdik v. Bonzelet, 963  
13 F.2d 1258, 1262 (9th Cir. 1992); Hal Roach Studios v. Richard Feiner & Co., 896 F.2d 1542,  
14 1546 (9th Cir. 1990). After amendment, the Court will treat previous complaints as  
15 nonexistent. Ferdik, 963 F.2d at 1262. Any cause of action that was raised in a prior  
16 complaint is waived if it is not raised in a second amended complaint. King v. Atiyeh, 814  
17 F.2d 565, 567 (9th Cir. 1987).

18 **VII. Warnings**

19 **A. Release**

20 Plaintiff must pay the unpaid balance of the filing fee within 120 days of his release.  
21 Also, within 30 days of his release, he must either (1) notify the Court that he intends to pay  
22 the balance or (2) show good cause, in writing, why he cannot. Failure to comply may result  
23 in dismissal of this action.

24 **B. Address Changes**

25 Plaintiff must file and serve a notice of a change of address in accordance with Rule  
26 83.3(d) of the Local Rules of Civil Procedure. Plaintiff must not include a motion for other  
27 relief with a notice of change of address. Failure to comply may result in dismissal of this  
28 action.

1           **C. Copies**

2           Plaintiff must submit an additional copy of every filing for use by the Court. See  
3 LRCiv 5.4. Failure to comply may result in the filing being stricken without further notice  
4 to Plaintiff.

5           **D. Possible “Strike”**

6           Because the First Amended Complaint has been dismissed for failure to state a claim,  
7 if Plaintiff fails to file a second amended complaint correcting the deficiencies identified in  
8 this Order, the dismissal will count as a “strike” under the “3-strikes” provision of 28 U.S.C.  
9 § 1915(g). Under the 3-strikes provision, a prisoner may not bring a civil action or appeal  
10 a civil judgment *in forma pauperis* under 28 U.S.C. § 1915 “if the prisoner has, on 3 or more  
11 prior occasions, while incarcerated or detained in any facility, brought an action or appeal  
12 in a court of the United States that was dismissed on the grounds that it is frivolous,  
13 malicious, or fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, unless the prisoner is  
14 under imminent danger of serious physical injury.” 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

15           **E. Possible Dismissal**

16           If Plaintiff fails to timely comply with every provision of this Order, including these  
17 warnings, the Court may dismiss this action without further notice. See Ferdik, 963 F.2d at  
18 1260-61 (a district court may dismiss an action for failure to comply with any order of the  
19 Court).

20 **IT IS ORDERED:**

21           (1) Plaintiff’s Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*, filed with the Complaint,  
22 is **granted**. (Doc.# 3.)

23           (2) As required by the accompanying Order to the appropriate government agency,  
24 Plaintiff must pay the \$350.00 filing fee, but is not assessed an initial partial filing fee.

25           (3) Plaintiff’s second Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* is **denied** as  
26 moot. (Doc.# 5.)

27           (4) The First Amended Complaint is **dismissed** for failure to state a claim.  
28 Plaintiff has **30 days** from the date this Order is filed to file a first amended complaint in



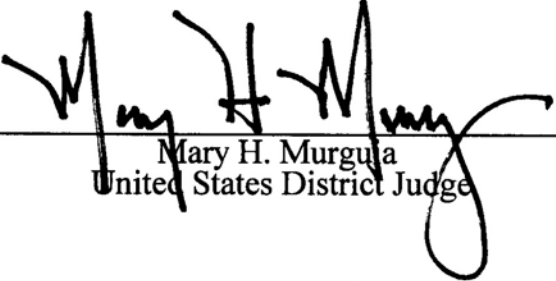
1 compliance with this Order. (Doc.# 4.)

2 (5) If Plaintiff fails to file an amended complaint within 30 days, the Clerk of  
3 Court must, without further notice, enter a judgment of dismissal of this action with prejudice  
4 that states that the dismissal counts as a “strike” under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

5 (6) The Clerk of Court must mail Plaintiff a court-approved form for filing a civil  
6 rights complaint by a prisoner.

7 DATED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2009.

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Mary H. Murgula  
United States District Judge

**Instructions for a Prisoner Filing a Civil Rights Complaint  
in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona**

1. Who May Use This Form. The civil rights complaint form is designed to help incarcerated persons prepare a complaint seeking relief for a violation of their federal civil rights. These complaints typically concern, but are not limited to, conditions of confinement. **This form should not be used to challenge your conviction or sentence.** If you want to challenge a state conviction or sentence, you should file a petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 for a writ of habeas corpus by a person in state custody. If you want to challenge a federal conviction or sentence, you should file a motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 to vacate sentence in the federal court that entered the judgment.
  
2. The Form. **Local Rule of Civil Procedure (LRCiv) 3.4(a) provides that complaints by incarcerated persons must be filed on the court-approved form.** The form must be typed or neatly handwritten. The form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. All questions must be answered clearly and concisely in the appropriate space on the form. If needed, you may attach additional pages, **but no more than fifteen additional pages**, of standard letter-sized paper. You must identify which part of the complaint is being continued and number all pages. If you do not fill out the form properly, you will be asked to submit additional or corrected information, which may delay the processing of your action. You do not need to cite law.
  
3. Your Signature. You must tell the truth and sign the form. If you make a false statement of a material fact, you may be prosecuted for perjury.
  
4. The Filing Fee. The filing fee for this action is \$350.00. If you are unable to immediately pay the filing fee, you may request leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*. Please review the “Information for Prisoners Seeking Leave to Proceed with a (Non-Habeas) Civil Action in Federal Court *In Forma Pauperis* Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915” for additional instructions.
  
5. Original and Judge’s Copy. You must send an **original plus one copy** of your complaint and of any other documents submitted to the Court. You must send one additional copy to the Court if you wish to have a file-stamped copy of the document returned to you. All copies must be identical to the original. Copies may be legibly handwritten.
  
6. Where to File. You should file your complaint in the division **where you were confined when your rights were allegedly violated.** See LRCiv 5.1(a) and 77.1(a). If you were confined in Maricopa, Pinal, Yuma, La Paz, or Gila County, file in the Phoenix Division. If you were confined in Apache, Navajo, Coconino, Mohave, or Yavapai County, file in the Prescott Division. If you were confined in Pima, Cochise, Santa Cruz, Graham, or Greenlee County, file in the Tucson Division. **Mail the original and one copy of the complaint with the \$350 filing fee or the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* to:**

Phoenix & Prescott Divisions:  
U.S. District Court Clerk  
U.S. Courthouse, Suite 130  
401 West Washington Street, SPC 10  
Phoenix, Arizona 85003-2119

**OR**

Tucson Division:  
U.S. District Court Clerk  
U.S. Courthouse, Suite 1500  
405 West Congress Street  
Tucson, Arizona 85701-5010

7. Change of Address. You must immediately notify the Court and the defendants in writing of any change in your mailing address. **Failure to notify the Court of any change in your mailing address may result in the dismissal of your case.**

8. Certificate of Service. You must furnish the defendants with a copy of any document you submit to the Court (except the initial complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*). Each original document (except the initial complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*) must include a certificate of service on the last page of the document stating the date a copy of the document was mailed to the defendants and the address to which it was mailed. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(a), (d). Any document received by the Court that does not include a certificate of service may be stricken. A certificate of service should be in the following form:

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing document was mailed  
this \_\_\_\_\_ (month, day, year) to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney for Defendant(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

9. Amended Complaint. If you need to change any of the information in the initial complaint, you must file an amended complaint. The amended complaint must be written on the court-approved civil rights complaint form. You may file one amended complaint without leave (permission) of Court before any defendant has answered your original complaint. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a). After any defendant has filed an answer, you must file a motion for leave to amend and lodge (submit) a proposed amended complaint. LRCiv 15.1. In addition, an amended complaint may not incorporate by reference any part of your prior complaint. LRCiv 15.1(a)(2). **Any allegations or defendants not included in the amended complaint are considered dismissed.** All amended complaints are subject to screening under the Prison Litigation Reform Act; screening your amendment will take additional processing time.

10. Exhibits. You should not submit exhibits with the complaint or amended complaint. Instead, the relevant information should be paraphrased. You should keep the exhibits to use to support or oppose a motion to dismiss, a motion for summary judgment, or at trial.

11. Letters and Motions. It is generally inappropriate to write a letter to any judge or the staff of any judge. The only appropriate way to communicate with the Court is by filing a written pleading or motion.

## 12. Completing the Civil Rights Complaint Form.

### **HEADING:**

1. Your Name. Print your name, prison or inmate number, and institutional mailing address on the lines provided.
2. Defendants. If there are **four or fewer** defendants, print the name of each. If you name **more than four** defendants, print the name of the first defendant on the first line, write the words “and others” on the second line, and attach an additional page listing the names of **all** of the defendants. Insert the additional page after page 1 and number it “1-A” at the bottom.
3. Jury Demand. If you want a jury trial, you must write “JURY TRIAL DEMANDED” in the space below “CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT BY A PRISONER.” Failure to do so may result in the loss of the right to a jury trial. A jury trial is not available if you are seeking only injunctive relief.

### **Part A. JURISDICTION:**

1. Nature of Suit. Mark whether you are filing the complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for state, county, or city defendants; “Bivens v. Six Unknown Federal Narcotics Agents” for federal defendants; or “other.” If you mark “other,” identify the source of that authority.
2. Location. Identify the institution and city where the alleged violation of your rights occurred.
3. Defendants. Print all of the requested information about each of the defendants in the spaces provided. If you are naming more than four defendants, you must provide the necessary information about each additional defendant on separate pages labeled “2-A,” “2-B,” etc., at the bottom. Insert the additional page(s) immediately behind page 2.

### **Part B. PREVIOUS LAWSUITS:**

You must identify any other lawsuit you have filed in either state or federal court while you were a prisoner. Print all of the requested information about each lawsuit in the spaces provided. If you have filed more than three lawsuits, you must provide the necessary information about each additional lawsuit on a separate page. Label the page(s) as “2-A,” “2-B,” etc., at the bottom of the page and insert the additional page(s) immediately behind page 2.

### **Part C. CAUSE OF ACTION:**

You must identify what rights each defendant violated. The form provides space to allege three separate counts (**one violation per count**). If you are alleging more than three counts, you must provide the necessary information about each additional count on a separate page. Number the additional pages “5-A,” “5-B,” etc., and insert them immediately behind page 5. Remember that you are limited to a total of fifteen additional pages.

1. Counts. You must identify which civil right was violated. **You may allege the violation of only one civil right per count.**
2. Issue Involved. Check the box that most closely identifies the issue involved in your claim. **You may check only one box per count.** If you check the box marked “Other,” you must identify the specific issue involved.
3. Supporting Facts. After you have identified which civil right was violated, you must state the supporting facts. Be as specific as possible. You must state what each individual defendant did to violate your rights. If there is more than one defendant, you must identify which defendant did what act. You also should state the date(s) on which the act(s) occurred, if possible.
4. Injury. State precisely how you were injured by the alleged violation of your rights.
5. Administrative Remedies. You must exhaust any available administrative remedies before you file a civil rights complaint. See 42 U.S.C. § 1997e. Consequently, you should disclose whether you have exhausted the inmate grievance procedures or administrative appeals for each count in your complaint. If the grievance procedures were not available for any of your counts, fully explain why on the lines provided.

**Part D. REQUEST FOR RELIEF:**

Print the relief you are seeking in the space provided.

**SIGNATURE:**

You must sign your name and print the date you signed the complaint. Failure to sign the complaint will delay the processing of your action. Unless you are an attorney, you may not bring an action on behalf of anyone but yourself.

**FINAL NOTE**

You should follow these instructions carefully. Failure to do so may result in your complaint being stricken or dismissed. All questions must be answered concisely in the proper space on the form. If you need more space, you may attach no more than fifteen additional pages. But the form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. If you attach additional pages, be sure to identify which section of the complaint is being continued and number the pages.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Prisoner/Booking Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Confinement

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

**(Failure to notify the Court of your change of address may result in dismissal of this action.)**

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Full Name of Plaintiff) Plaintiff,

vs.

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
(To be supplied by the Clerk)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Full Name of Defendant)

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

(4) \_\_\_\_\_

Defendant(s).

Check if there are additional Defendants and attach page 1-A listing them.

**CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT  
BY A PRISONER**

- Original Complaint
- First Amended Complaint
- Second Amended Complaint

**A. JURISDICTION**

1. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to:
  - 28 U.S.C. § 1343(a); 42 U.S.C. § 1983
  - 28 U.S.C. § 1331; Bivens v. Six Unknown Federal Narcotics Agents, 403 U.S. 388 (1971).
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Institution/city where violation occurred: \_\_\_\_\_

## B. DEFENDANTS

1. Name of first Defendant: \_\_\_\_\_ . The first Defendant is employed as:  
\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(Position and Title) (Institution)
2. Name of second Defendant: \_\_\_\_\_ . The second Defendant is employed as:  
\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(Position and Title) (Institution)
3. Name of third Defendant: \_\_\_\_\_ . The third Defendant is employed as:  
\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(Position and Title) (Institution)
4. Name of fourth Defendant: \_\_\_\_\_ . The fourth Defendant is employed as:  
\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(Position and Title) (Institution)

If you name more than four Defendants, answer the questions listed above for each additional Defendant on a separate page.

## C. PREVIOUS LAWSUITS

1. Have you filed any other lawsuits while you were a prisoner?  Yes  No
2. If yes, how many lawsuits have you filed? \_\_\_\_\_. Describe the previous lawsuits:
  - a. First prior lawsuit:
    1. Parties: \_\_\_\_\_ v. \_\_\_\_\_
    2. Court and case number: \_\_\_\_\_
    3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Second prior lawsuit:
    1. Parties: \_\_\_\_\_ v. \_\_\_\_\_
    2. Court and case number: \_\_\_\_\_
    3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Third prior lawsuit:
    1. Parties: \_\_\_\_\_ v. \_\_\_\_\_
    2. Court and case number: \_\_\_\_\_
    3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) \_\_\_\_\_

If you filed more than three lawsuits, answer the questions listed above for each additional lawsuit on a separate page.

**D. CAUSE OF ACTION**

**COUNT I**

1. State the constitutional or other federal civil right that was violated: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

2. **Count I.** Identify the issue involved. Check **only one**. State additional issues in separate counts.  
 Basic necessities                       Mail                       Access to the court                       Medical care  
 Disciplinary proceedings                       Property                       Exercise of religion                       Retaliation  
 Excessive force by an officer                       Threat to safety                       Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

3. **Supporting Facts.** State as briefly as possible the FACTS supporting Count I. Describe exactly what **each Defendant** did or did not do that violated your rights. State the facts clearly in your own words without citing legal authority or arguments.

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4. **Injury.** State how you were injured by the actions or inactions of the Defendant(s).  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

5. **Administrative Remedies:**  
a. Are there any administrative remedies (grievance procedures or administrative appeals) available at your institution?                       Yes                       No  
b. Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count I?                       Yes                       No  
c. Did you appeal your request for relief on Count I to the highest level?                       Yes                       No  
d. If you did not submit or appeal a request for administrative relief at any level, briefly explain why you did not. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.



**COUNT II**

1. State the constitutional or other federal civil right that was violated: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

2. **Count II.** Identify the issue involved. Check **only one**. State additional issues in separate counts.  
 Basic necessities                   Mail                   Access to the court                   Medical care  
 Disciplinary proceedings                   Property                   Exercise of religion                   Retaliation  
 Excessive force by an officer                   Threat to safety                   Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

3. **Supporting Facts.** State as briefly as possible the **FACTS** supporting Count II. Describe exactly what **each Defendant** did or did not do that violated your rights. State the facts clearly in your own words without citing legal authority or arguments.

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4. **Injury.** State how you were injured by the actions or inactions of the Defendant(s).  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

5. **Administrative Remedies.**

- a. Are there any administrative remedies (grievance procedures or administrative appeals) available at your institution?  Yes     No
- b. Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count II?  Yes     No
- c. Did you appeal your request for relief on Count II to the highest level?  Yes     No
- d. If you did not submit or appeal a request for administrative relief at any level, briefly explain why you did not. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**COUNT III**

1. State the constitutional or other federal civil right that was violated: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

2. **Count III.** Identify the issue involved. Check **only one**. State additional issues in separate counts.

<input type="checkbox"/> Basic necessities	<input type="checkbox"/> Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> Access to the court	<input type="checkbox"/> Medical care
<input type="checkbox"/> Disciplinary proceedings	<input type="checkbox"/> Property	<input type="checkbox"/> Exercise of religion	<input type="checkbox"/> Retaliation
<input type="checkbox"/> Excessive force by an officer	<input type="checkbox"/> Threat to safety	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.	

3. **Supporting Facts.** State as briefly as possible the FACTS supporting Count III. Describe exactly what **each Defendant** did or did not do that violated your rights. State the facts clearly in your own words without citing legal authority or arguments.

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4. **Injury.** State how you were injured by the actions or inactions of the Defendant(s).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

5. **Administrative Remedies.**

a. Are there any administrative remedies (grievance procedures or administrative appeals) available at your institution?  Yes  No

b. Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count III?  Yes  No

c. Did you appeal your request for relief on Count III to the highest level?  Yes  No

d. If you did not submit or appeal a request for administrative relief at any level, briefly explain why you did not. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

If you assert more than three Counts, answer the questions listed above for each additional Count on a separate page.

**E. REQUEST FOR RELIEF**

State the relief you are seeking:

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF PLAINTIFF

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name and title of paralegal, legal assistant, or other person who helped prepare this complaint)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of attorney, if any)

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\_\_\_\_\_  
(Attorney's address & telephone number)

**ADDITIONAL PAGES**

All questions must be answered concisely in the proper space on the form. If you need more space, you may attach no more than fifteen additional pages. But the form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. If you attach additional pages, be sure to identify which section of the complaint is being continued and number all pages.