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

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Sergio Cortez Benitez,

No. CV 12-0560-PHX-RCB (JFM)

10

Plaintiff,

**ORDER**

11

vs.

12

Joseph M. Arpaio, et al.,

13

Defendants.

14

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Plaintiff Sergio Cortez Benitez, who is confined in the Fourth Avenue Jail in Phoenix, Arizona, has filed a *pro se* civil rights Complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and an Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*. The Court will dismiss the Complaint with leave to amend.

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

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

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**II. Statutory Screening of Prisoner Complaints**

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The Court is required to screen complaints brought by prisoners seeking relief against

1 a governmental entity or an officer or an employee of a governmental entity. 28 U.S.C.  
2 § 1915A(a). The Court must dismiss a complaint or portion thereof if a plaintiff has raised  
3 claims that are legally frivolous or malicious, that fail to state a claim upon which relief may  
4 be granted, or that seek monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief.  
5 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1), (2).

6 A pleading must contain a “short and plain statement of the claim *showing* that the  
7 pleader is entitled to relief.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a)(2) (emphasis added). While Rule 8 does not  
8 demand detailed factual allegations, “it demands more than an unadorned, the-defendant-  
9 unlawfully-harmed-me accusation.” Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 129 S. Ct. 1937, 1949 (2009).  
10 “Threadbare recitals of the elements of a cause of action, supported by mere conclusory  
11 statements, do not suffice.” Id.

12 “[A] complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to ‘state a  
13 claim to relief that is plausible on its face.’” Id. (quoting Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly,  
14 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007)). A claim is plausible “when the plaintiff pleads factual content  
15 that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the  
16 misconduct alleged.” Id. “Determining whether a complaint states a plausible claim for  
17 relief [is] . . . a context-specific task that requires the reviewing court to draw on its judicial  
18 experience and common sense.” Id. at 1950. Thus, although a plaintiff’s specific factual  
19 allegations may be consistent with a constitutional claim, a court must assess whether there  
20 are other “more likely explanations” for a defendant’s conduct. Id. at 1951.

21 But as the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has instructed, courts  
22 must “continue to construe *pro se* filings liberally.” Hebbe v. Pliler, 627 F.3d 338, 342 (9th  
23 Cir. 2010). A “complaint [filed by a *pro se* prisoner] ‘must be held to less stringent standards  
24 than formal pleadings drafted by lawyers.’” Id. (quoting Erickson v. Pardus, 551 U.S. 89,  
25 94 (2007) (*per curiam*)).

26 If the Court determines that a pleading could be cured by the allegation of other facts,  
27 a *pro se* litigant is entitled to an opportunity to amend a complaint before dismissal of the  
28 action. See Lopez v. Smith, 203 F.3d 1122, 1127-29 (9th Cir. 2000) (*en banc*). The Court

1 should not, however, advise the litigant how to cure the defects. This type of advice “would  
2 undermine district judges’ role as impartial decisionmakers.” Pliler v. Ford, 542 U.S. 225,  
3 231 (2004); see also Lopez, 203 F.3d at 1131 n.13 (declining to decide whether the court was  
4 required to inform a litigant of deficiencies). The Court will dismiss Plaintiff’s Complaint  
5 for failure to state a claim, but because the Complaint may possibly be saved by amendment,  
6 will dismiss the Complaint with leave to amend.

### 7 **III. Complaint**

8 Plaintiff alleges one count for excessive force. He sues Maricopa County Sheriff  
9 Joseph M. Arpaio and the Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO). Plaintiff seeks  
10 injunctive and compensatory relief.

### 11 **IV. Failure to State a Claim**

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

#### 19 **A. MCSO**

20 Plaintiff only sues MCSO; however, it is not a proper defendant under § 1983. Claims  
21 under § 1983 are directed at “bodies politic and corporate.” Monell v. Dep’t of Soc. Servs.,  
22 436 U.S. 658, 688-89 (1978). Under the Civil Rights Act of 1871, Congress intended  
23 municipalities and other local government units to be included among those persons to whom  
24 § 1983 applies. Id. at 689-690. In Arizona, the responsibility for operating jails and caring  
25 for prisoners is placed by law upon the sheriff and the County. See A.R.S. §§ 11-251(8), 11-  
26 291(A), 11-441(A)(5), 31-101. MCSO is simply an administrative creation of the sheriff to  
27 allow him to carry out his statutory duties; it is not a “person” amenable to suit pursuant to  
28 § 1983. See e.g., Petaway v. City of New Haven Police Dep’t, 541 F. Supp.2d 504 (D. Conn.

1 2008); Pahle v. Colebrookdale Tp., 227 F. Supp.2d 361 (E.D. Pa. 2002). Accordingly,  
2 MCSO will be dismissed from this action as the Defendant.

3 **B. Sheriff Arpaio**

4 Plaintiff also sues Sheriff Arpaio. While he may be sued for constitutional violations,  
5 Plaintiff fails to state a claim against him.

6 “A plaintiff must allege facts, not simply conclusions, that show that an individual was  
7 personally involved in the deprivation of his civil rights.” Barren v. Harrington, 152 F.3d  
8 1193, 1194 (9th Cir. 1998). For an individual to be liable in his official capacity, a plaintiff  
9 must allege that the official acted as a result of a policy, practice, or custom. See Cortez v.  
10 County of Los Angeles, 294 F.3d 1186, 1188 (9th Cir. 2001). Further, there is no *respondeat*  
11 *superior* liability under § 1983, so a defendant’s position as the supervisor of a someone who  
12 allegedly violated a plaintiff’s constitutional rights does not make him liable. Monell, 436  
13 U.S. at 691; Taylor v. List, 880 F.2d 1040, 1045 (9th Cir. 1989). A supervisor in his  
14 individual capacity, “is only liable for constitutional violations of his subordinates if the  
15 supervisor participated in or directed the violations, or knew of the violations and failed to  
16 act to prevent them.” Taylor, 880 F.2d at 1045.

17 Plaintiff fails to allege any facts against Arpaio. He has not alleged facts to support  
18 that Arpaio enacted or enforced a policy, custom, or practice that resulted in the denial of  
19 Plaintiff’s constitutional rights. He also has not alleged facts to support that Arpaio directly  
20 violated his constitutional rights or that Arpaio was aware that Plaintiff’s rights were being  
21 violated but failed to act. Accordingly, Arpaio will be dismissed.

22 **C. Count I**

23 Plaintiff designates his claim as one for excessive force. He alleges the following:  
24 on May 17, 2012, a court officer took his walking cane and put him in chains. Plaintiff was  
25 unable to walk and kept falling. Plaintiff needed his cane due to back surgery. Plaintiff  
26 contends that he re-injured his back and now is confined to a wheelchair.

27 Although Plaintiff designates Count I as a claim for excessive force, the Court  
28 construes the claim as more brought as a claim for threat to safety. To state a claim under

1 § 1983 for threat to safety, an inmate must allege facts to support that he was incarcerated  
2 under conditions posing a substantial risk of harm and that prison officials were “deliberately  
3 indifferent” to those risks. Farmer, 511 U.S. at 832-33. To adequately allege deliberate  
4 indifference, a plaintiff must allege facts to support that a defendant knew of, but  
5 disregarded, an excessive risk to inmate safety. Id. at 837. That is, “the official must both  
6 [have been] aware of facts from which the inference could be drawn that a substantial risk  
7 of serious harm exist[ed], and he must also [have] draw[n] the inference.” Id.

8 Plaintiff fails to name as a defendant the officer who took his cane. Plaintiff also fails  
9 to allege facts to support that the officer knew, or should have known, that taking Plaintiff’s  
10 cane and that putting him in chains posed a substantial risk of serious harm to Plaintiff. For  
11 example, Plaintiff does not allege the officer knew of Plaintiff’s medical condition or that he  
12 was unable to walk without a cane. Because Plaintiff has not named the officer as a  
13 defendant or alleged facts to support that the officer acted with deliberate indifference to a  
14 substantial risk of serious harm, Plaintiff fails to state a claim for threat to safety.

15 **V. Leave to Amend**

16 For the foregoing reasons, Plaintiff’s Complaint will be dismissed for failure to state  
17 a claim upon which relief may be granted. Within 30 days, Plaintiff may submit a first  
18 amended complaint to cure the deficiencies outlined above. The Clerk of Court will mail  
19 Plaintiff a court-approved form to use for filing a first amended complaint. If Plaintiff fails  
20 to use the court-approved form, the Court may strike the amended complaint and dismiss this  
21 action without further notice to Plaintiff.

22 Plaintiff must clearly designate on the face of the document that it is the “First  
23 Amended Complaint.” The first amended complaint must be retyped or rewritten in its  
24 entirety on the court-approved form and may not incorporate any part of the original  
25 Complaint by reference. Plaintiff may include only one claim per count.

26 A first amended complaint supersedes the original complaint. Ferdik v. Bonzelet, 963  
27 F.2d 1258, 1262 (9th Cir. 1992); Hal Roach Studios v. Richard Feiner & Co., 896 F.2d 1542,  
28 1546 (9th Cir. 1990). After amendment, the Court will treat an original complaint as

1 nonexistent. Ferdik, 963 F.2d at 1262. Any cause of action that was raised in the original  
2 complaint is waived if it is not raised in a first amended complaint. King v. Atiyeh, 814 F.2d  
3 565, 567 (9th Cir. 1987).

#### 4 **VI. Warnings**

##### 5 **A. Release**

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

##### 10 **B. Address Changes**

11 Plaintiff must file and serve a notice of a change of address in accordance with Rule  
12 83.3(d) of the Local Rules of Civil Procedure. Plaintiff must not include a motion for other  
13 relief with a notice of change of address. Failure to comply may result in dismissal of this  
14 action.

##### 15 **C. Copies**

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

##### 19 **D. Possible “Strike”**

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



**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.

<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 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.