

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
JONESBORO DIVISION**

CLESTER BILLS

PLAINTIFF

v.

3:16CV00048-KGB

BLYTHEVILLE WATER WORK

DEFENDANT

ORDER

Plaintiff, Clester Bills, filed a *pro se* Complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, without prepayment of the \$400.00¹ filing fee or an Application to Proceed Without Prepayment of Fees and Affidavit. (Doc. No. 1.)

Under the Prison Litigation Reform Act (“PLRA”), a prisoner who is permitted to file a civil action *in forma pauperis* still must pay the full statutory filing fee. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). The only question is whether a prisoner will pay the entire filing fee at the initiation of the proceeding or in installments over a period of time. *Ashley v. Dilworth*, 147 F.3d 715, 716 (8th Cir. 1998). Even if a prisoner is without assets and unable to pay an initial filing fee, he will be allowed to proceed with his § 1983 claims, and the filing fee will be collected by the Court in installments from the prisoner’s inmate trust account. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(4). **If the prisoner’s case is subsequently dismissed for any reason, including a determination that it is frivolous, malicious, fails to state a claim, or seeks monetary relief against a defendant who is immune from such relief, the full amount of the \$400 filing fee will be collected, and no portion of this filing fee will be refunded to the prisoner.**

The PLRA requires that Plaintiff submit a completed Application to Proceed Without

¹Effective May 1, 2013, the cost for filing a new civil case is \$400. The increase is due to a new \$50 administrative fee, which does not apply to persons granted *in forma pauperis* status under 28 U.S.C. § 1915.

Prepayment of Fees and Affidavit, along with calculation sheets, prepared and signed by an authorized officer of the Detention Center.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Plaintiff must submit either (1) the statutory filing fee of \$400; or (2) a properly completed Application to Proceed Without Prepayment of Fees and Affidavit, **with the required calculation sheet signed by an authorized official of the detention center at which he is confined** within thirty (30) days of the entry date of this Order.²

The Clerk shall send to Plaintiff an Application to Proceed Without Prepayment of Fees and Affidavit and a filing fee calculation sheet.

DATED this 1st day of March, 2016.



JOE J. VOLPE
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

²Plaintiff is hereby notified of his responsibility to comply with the Local Rules of the Court. Of particular note to *pro se* plaintiffs is Rule 5.5(c)(2), which states:

Parties appearing *pro se*. It is the duty of any party not represented by counsel to promptly notify the Clerk and the other parties to the proceedings of any change in his or her address, to monitor the progress of the case, and to prosecute or defend the action diligently. A party appearing for himself/herself shall sign his/her pleadings and state his/her address, zip code, and telephone number. If any communication from the Court to a *pro se* plaintiff is not responded to within thirty (30) days, the case may be dismissed without prejudice. Any party proceeding *pro se* shall be expected to be familiar with and follow the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

Loc. R. 5.5(c)(2).