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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

LUMPKIN WILLIAMS,

Plaintiff,

vs.

1:06 CV 01569 AWI YNP GSA (PC)

FINDING S AND RECOMMENDATION

GARZA, et al.,

Defendants.

Plaintiff is a state prisoner proceeding pro se and in forma pauperis in a civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

On October 22, 2009, Plaintiff was ordered to complete and submit to the court USM 285 forms for service of process on certain defendants. Plaintiff has failed to comply with the order of October 22, 2009.

Local Rule 11-110 provides that “failure of counsel or of a party to comply with these Local Rules or with any order of the Court may be grounds for the imposition by the Court of any and all sanctions . . . within the inherent power of the Court.” District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and “in the exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . . dismissal of a case.” Thompson v. Housing Auth., 782 F.2d 829, 831 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party’s

1 failure to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules.
2 See, e.g. Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995)(dismissal for noncompliance with
3 local rule); Ferdik v. Bonzelet, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (dismissal for failure to
4 comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint); Carey v. King, 856 F.2d 1439, 1440-
5 41 (9th Cir. 1988)(dismissal for failure to comply with local rule requiring pro se plaintiffs to
6 keep court apprised of address); Malone v. U.S. Postal Service, 833 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir.
7 1987)(dismissal for failure to comply with court order); Henderson v. Duncan, 779 F.2d 1421,
8 1424 (9th Cir. 1986)(dismissal for failure to lack of prosecution and failure to comply with local
9 rules).

10 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to obey a
11 court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the court must consider several factors: (1) the
12 public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need to manage its docket;
13 (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy favoring disposition of cases on
14 their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives. Thompson, 782 F.2d at 831;
15 Henderson, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; Malone, 833 F.2d at 130; Ferdik, 963 F.2d at 1260-61; Ghazali,
16 46 F.3d at 53.

17 In the instant case, the court finds that the public's interest in expeditiously resolving this
18 litigation and the court's interest in managing the docket weigh in favor of dismissal. The third
19 factor, risk of prejudice to defendants, also weighs in favor of dismissal, since a presumption of
20 injury arises from the occurrence of unreasonable delay in prosecuting an action. Anderson v.
21 Air West, 542 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor -- public policy favoring
22 disposition of cases on their merits -- is greatly outweighed by the factors in favor of dismissal
23 discussed herein. Finally, a court's warning to a party that his failure to obey the court's order
24 will result in dismissal satisfies the "consideration of alternatives" requirement. Ferdik v.
25 Bonzelet, 963 F.2d at 1262; Malone, 833 at 132-33; Henderson, 779 F.2d at 1424.

