

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10
11 BARRY LOUIS LAMON,
12 Plaintiff,
13 v.
14 ADAMS, et al.,
15 Defendants.

Case No.: 1:09-cv-00205-LJO-JLT (PC)

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO DENY PLAINTIFF'S MOTION REQUESTING ACCESS TO CASE FILES AND LEGAL MATERIALS FOR LACK OF JURISDICTION

(Doc. 287)

30-DAY DEADLINE

Barry Louis Lamon, is a state prisoner proceeding *pro se* and *in forma pauperis* in this civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. In his complaint, Plaintiff alleges Defendants used excessive force when they forced him to take his medication. On September 21, 2015, Plaintiff filed a motion seeking assistance from the Court to gain access to his case files and materials. (Doc. 287.) This motion is construed as a motion seeking injunctive relief.

Federal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction and in considering a request for preliminary injunctive relief, the Court is bound by the requirement that as a preliminary matter, it have before it an actual case or controversy. *City of Los Angeles v. Lyons*, 461 U.S. 95, 102, 103 S.Ct. 1660, 1665 (1983); *Valley Forge Christian Coll. v. Ams. United for Separation of Church and State, Inc.*, 454 U.S. 464, 471 (1982). If the Court does not have an actual case or controversy before it, it has no power to hear the matter in question. *Id.* Requests for prospective relief are further limited by 18 U.S.C. §

3626(a)(1)(A) of the Prison Litigation Reform Act, which requires that the Court find the "relief [sought] is narrowly drawn, extends no further than necessary to correct the violation of the Federal right, and is the least intrusive means necessary to correct the violation of the Federal right."

Regardless, the pendency of this action does not give the Court jurisdiction over prison officials in general or over Plaintiff's mail issues. *Summers v. Earth Island Institute*, 555 U.S. 488, 492-93 (2009); *Mayfield v. United States*, 599 F.3d 964, 969 (9th Cir. 2010). The Court's jurisdiction is limited to the parties in this action and to the cognizable legal claims upon which this action is proceeding. *Summers*, 129 S.Ct. at 1148-49; *Mayfield*, 599 F.3d at 969.

Plaintiff does not seek the temporary restraining order and/or preliminary injunction against any of the Defendants who remain in this action. "A federal court may issue an injunction if it has personal jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter jurisdiction over the claim; *it may not attempt to determine the rights of persons not before the court.*" *Zepeda v. United States Immigration Service*, 753 F.2d 719, 727 (9th Cir. 1985) (emphasis added). Thus, Plaintiff's motion must be denied for lack of jurisdiction over "Correctional Officer Personnel at California State Prison in Tehachapi, County of Kern, California." (See Doc. 287.)

This action cannot provide redress for the difficulties Plaintiff is having accessing his case files and materials. The issue is not that Plaintiff's allegations are not serious, or that Plaintiff is not entitled to relief if sought in the proper forum. The seriousness of Plaintiff's accusations concerning his inability to access his case files and materials cannot and do not overcome what is a *jurisdictional* bar. *Steel Co.*, 523 U.S. at 103-04 ("[The] triad of injury in fact, causation, and redressability constitutes the core of Article III's case-or-controversy requirement, and the party invoking federal jurisdiction bears the burden of establishing its existence.") This action is simply not the proper vehicle for conveyance of the relief Plaintiff seeks.

Accordingly, it is HEREBY RECOMMENDED that Plaintiff's motion to assist him in accessing his case files and materials, filed September 21, 2015 (Doc. 287), be denied.

These Findings and Recommendations will be submitted to the United States District Judge assigned to the case, pursuant to the provisions of Title 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(l). **Within 30 days** after being served with these Findings and Recommendations, the parties may file written objections with

the Court. The document should be captioned "Objections to Magistrate Judge's Findings and Recommendations." The parties are advised that failure to file objections within the specified time may result in the waiver of rights on appeal. Wilkerson v. Wheeler, 772 F.3d 834, 839 (9th Cir. 2014) (citing Baxter v. Sullivan, 923 F.2d 1391, 1394 (9th Cir. 1991)). IT IS SO ORDERED. /s/ Jennifer L. Thurston
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE Dated: **October 6, 2015**