## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BARRY LOUIS LAMON,

Plaintiff,

V.

ADAMS, et al.,

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. 307, 315)

30-DAY DEADLINE

In this action, Plaintiff claims he suffered excessive force inflicted by Defendants Baer, Valdez, Buenos, Lee, Ponce, and Purvis while he was housed at California State Prison-Corcoran.

On January 15, 2016, Plaintiff filed a motion requesting a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction asserting that prison personnel at California Correctional Institution in Tehachapi, California were tainting his food and coercing other inmates to threated death or grievous bodily harm against Plaintiff and that personnel at Kern Valley State Prison in Delano, California are likewise tainting his food and "staging" him on yards with prison gang members in an effort to do him great bodily harm. (*See* Docs. 307, 315.) Plaintiff generally asserts that prison staff at all of the facilities he is transferred to are aware of his litigious activities and, as a result, want to do him harm. (*Id.*) Plaintiff also grieves that, when he was transferred from CCI to KVSP, he was not allowed to

take his case files and asserts that this has rendered him unable to respond to any orders from this court. (*Id.*)

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 every prison facility in the state of California. *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 in this action. *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 prison personnel at CCI and KVSP. (*See* Doc. 287.)

This action cannot provide redress for the fears Plaintiff has regarding his safety at various prison facilities. 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 safety 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.

Further, while this Court also lacks jurisdiction over officials at the various prison facilities that Plaintiff has been transferred in and out of, the last order issued addressing Plaintiff's difficulty in accessing his legal property was forwarded to the Wardens and Litigation Coordinators at CSP-Corcoran, CSP-Sacramento, and CCI and their assistance was requested in locating Plaintiff's legal property. (Doc. 309). The Court has received responses within the last two weeks, indicating that approximately nine boxes of Plaintiff's legal property have been located and forwarded to KVSP (where Plaintiff is currently housed). (*See* Docs. 312, 313, 316) Thus, the issue of Plaintiff's access to his legal property is moot. Further, Plaintiff is advised that there are no current deadlines in this action that require him to act. The trial of this matter has been vacated and a telephonic trial confirmation hearing has been set for February 29, 2016. (*See* Docs. 308, 311.) Plaintiff need not file anything in this action prior to the trial confirmation hearing.

Accordingly, it is HEREBY RECOMMENDED that Plaintiff's motion for temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction, filed January 5, 2016 (Doc. 307), 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 thirty (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.

Dated: **February 3, 2016** 

/s/ Jennifer L. Thurston
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE