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

CHRISTOPHER HARBRIDGE,	)	Case No. 1:10-cv-00473 AWI JLT (PC)
Plaintiff,	)	
vs.	)	ORDER DENYING MOTION PURSUANT TO 60(B)(1)
	)	(Doc. 6)
JESSE PASILLAS, et al.,	)	
Defendants.	)	ORDER DISMISSING FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT WITH LEAVE TO AMEND
		(Doc. 9)

Plaintiff is a state prisoner proceeding pro se and *in forma pauperis* with a civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. This proceeding was referred to the Magistrate Judge in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) and Local Rule 302. Pending before the Court is Plaintiff’s motion filed according to Federal Rules of Evidence 60(B)(1) and his amended complaint filed May 3, 2010.<sup>1</sup>

**I. Rule 60(B) motion**

A. Background

Plaintiff asserts that he mailed his motion to proceed in forma pauperis on February 18, 2010. (Doc. 6; Harbridge Dec) However, he mailed it to an “O” Street where the Court was located prior to

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<sup>1</sup> Plaintiff filed his original complaint and initiated this action on March 16, 2010. Before the Court had the opportunity to screen the complaint in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1915(A), Plaintiff filed an amended complaint on May 3, 2010. Because Plaintiff may amend his pleadings as a matter of right before service of a responsive pleading, see Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a), the Court will disregard the original complaint and will evaluate the amended complaint for screening purposes.

1 its move in 2006. Id. Plaintiff asserts that he obtained this incorrect address from “the 2006 supplement  
2 to the CALIFORNIA STATE PRISONER’S HANDBOOK, Third Edition, published by the Prison Law  
3 Office.” Id. Plaintiff states that this book was given to him by an inmate-employee who worked in the  
4 prison law library. Id.

5 Plaintiff reports that on March 7, 2010, he mailed his complaint for damages to the same “O”  
6 Street address. (Doc. 6; Harbridge Dec.) On March 10, 2010, the motion to proceed IFP was returned  
7 as “undeliverable.” Id. Plaintiff reports that then he borrowed a fellow inmate’s 2008 version of the  
8 handbook and discovered the Court’s correct address. Id. He re-mailed the IFP motion to the correct  
9 address on March 11, 2010. Id. Likewise, when his complaint for damages was returned on March 12,  
10 2010, he re-mailed it to the correct address on March 14, 2010. Id. In this motion, Plaintiff seeks a  
11 determination that his action was initiated on February 18, 2010, the date that he mailed his IFP motion.  
12 In essence, Plaintiff seeks an order preempting any defendants’ ability to file a motion to dismiss under  
13 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 12(b) on statute of limitations grounds.

#### 14 B. Analysis

15 Under the prison mailbox rule, the date that the pro se prisoner deposits his document with prison  
16 officials for mailing, is considered the filing date for purposes of evaluating whether it complied with  
17 the statute of limitations. Douglas v. Noelle, 567 F.3d 1103, 1109 (9th Cir. 2009). The mailbox rule  
18 requires that the prisoner deposit the pre-addressed, postage paid package to prison officials in order to  
19 invoke the mailbox rule. *See In re Flanagan*, 999 F.2d 753, 759 (3d Cir. Pa. 1993) Moreover, the  
20 prisoner bears the burden of proving the elements of the mailbox rule (Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(c)) though  
21 ““when a pro se petitioner alleges that he timely complied with a procedural deadline by submitting a  
22 document to prison authorities, the district court must either accept that allegation as correct or make  
23 a factual finding to the contrary upon a sufficient evidentiary showing by the opposing party.”” Caldwell  
24 v. Amend, 30 F.3d 1199, 1202 (9th Cir. 1994) (internal citation omitted).

25 Notably, here the motion is filed *before* any party has been served and, in fact, before the Court  
26 has screened the case or authorized service. Moreover, the declaration submitted by Plaintiff appears  
27 to be insufficient on its face. For example, Plaintiff does not allege that he deposited the documents with  
28 prison officials or that he deposited it in the prison mailbox designated for legal mail. Douglas, 567 F.3d

1 at 1108-1109. Instead, he says only that he “mailed to the U.S. District Court, Eastern Division, Fresno  
2 Office a Request to Proceed In Forma Pauperis” and that “I mailed the above corresponding § 1983 Civil  
3 Rights Complaint to the same address above.” (Doc. 5, Harbridge Dec.) In any event, because no  
4 defendant has appeared, the Court does not have the benefit of any opposing evidence.

5 Moreover, Plaintiff’s motion purports to be filed pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure  
6 rule 60(B)(1). This rule provides, “On motion and just terms, the court may relieve a party or its legal  
7 representative from a final judgment, order, or proceeding for the following reasons: (1) mistake,  
8 inadvertence, surprise, or excusable neglect; . . .” Here, no final judgment or order has been entered  
9 against Plaintiff. Therefore, Plaintiff’s motion raised under Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 60(B) is  
10 procedurally improper and it is **DENIED**.

11 **I. SCREENING**

12 **A. Screening Requirement**

13 The Court is required to review matters filed by prisoners against government defendants. 28  
14 U.S.C. § 1915(A)(a). The Court is required to screen complaint also where the plaintiff seeks to proceed  
15 in forma pauperis. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e). The Court must dismiss the action or portion thereof, if it is  
16 frivolous or malicious, fails to state a claim on which relief may be granted, or seeks monetary relief  
17 against a defendant who is immune from such relief. 28 U.S.C. § 1915 (e)(2). If the Court determines  
18 the complaint fails to state a claim, leave to amend may be granted to the extent that the deficiencies of  
19 the complaint can be cured by amendment. Lopez v. Smith, 203 F.3d 1122, 1127-28 (9th Cir. 2000) (en  
20 banc).

21 **B. Section 1983**

22 The Civil Rights Act under which this action was filed provides as follows:

23 Every person who, under color of [state law] . . . subjects, or causes to be  
24 subjected, any citizen of the United States . . . to the deprivation of any rights,  
25 privileges, or immunities secured by the Constitution . . . shall be liable to the  
party injured in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for  
redress.

26 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

27 To plead a § 1983 violation, the plaintiff must allege facts from which it may be inferred that (1)  
28 plaintiff was deprived of a federal right, and (2) the person who deprived plaintiff of that right acted

1 under color of state law. West v. Atkins, 487 U.S. 42, 48 (1988); Collins v. Womancare, 878 F.2d 1145,  
2 1147 (9th Cir. 1989). To warrant relief under § 1983, the plaintiff must allege and show that the  
3 defendants’ acts or omissions caused the deprivation of the plaintiff’s constitutionally protected rights.  
4 Leer v. Murphy, 844 F.2d 628, 633 (9th Cir. 1993). “A person deprives another of a constitutional right,  
5 within the meaning of section 1983, if he does an affirmative act, participates in another’s affirmative  
6 acts, or omits to perform an act which he is legally required to do that causes the deprivation of which  
7 [the plaintiff complains].” Id. There must be an actual causal connection or link between the actions  
8 of each defendant and the deprivation alleged to have been suffered by the plaintiff. See Monell v. Dept.  
9 of Social Services, 436 U.S. 658, 691-92 (1978) (citing Rizzo v. Goode, 423 U.S. 362, 370-71(1976)).

10 **C. Rule 8(a)**

11 Section 1983 complaints are governed by the notice pleading standard in Federal Rule of Civil  
12 Procedure 8(a), which provides in relevant part that:

13 A pleading that states a claim for relief must contain:

- 14 (1) a short and plain statement of the grounds for the court’s jurisdiction, unless the court  
15 already has jurisdiction and the claim needs no new jurisdictional support;  
16 (2) a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief;  
17 and  
18 (3) a demand for the relief sought, which may include relief in the alternative or different  
19 types of relief.

20 The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure adopt a flexible pleading policy. Nevertheless, a complaint  
21 must give fair notice and state the elements of the plaintiff’s claim plainly and succinctly. See Bell  
22 Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly, 550 U.S. 544, 555 (2007). In other words, the plaintiff is required to give  
23 the defendants fair notice of what constitutes the plaintiff’s claim and the grounds upon which it rests.  
24 Jones v. Community Redevelopment Agency, 733 F.2d 646, 649 (9th Cir. 1984). Although a complaint  
25 need not outline all the elements of a claim, there “must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as  
26 true, to ‘state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face.’” Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 129 S. Ct. 1937, 173 L.  
27 Ed. 2d 868 (2009) (quoting Twombly, 550 U.S. at 570). Vague and conclusory allegations are  
28 insufficient to state a claim under § 1983. See Ivey v. Board of Regents, 673 F.2d 266, 268 (9th Cir.  
1982).

1 **II. THE COMPLAINT**

2 Plaintiff raises a number of claims that stem from his placement in Administrative Segregation<sup>2</sup>  
3 at Pleasant Valley State Prison. Plaintiff was placed in Ad Seg on February 28, 2006, after he attended  
4 a hearing of the Institutional Classification Committee (“ICC”), made up of some of the defendants, who  
5 considered Plaintiff’s single-cell status. (Doc. 9 at 10) At the hearing, the committee considered  
6 Plaintiff’s extensive history of stated unwillingness to accept a cell mate. (Doc. 9, Ex. A) The committee  
7 considered also the report of a psychologist who determined that Plaintiff’s “potential for violence,  
8 should he be housed with another inmate . . . is no greater than any other inmate housed on Facility D-  
9 SNY.”<sup>3</sup> Id. In fact, Plaintiff had no history of violence or sexual abuse against a cell mate nor had he  
10 been the victim of such by a cell mate. Id.

11 When the committee cleared Plaintiff for double-cell housing, Plaintiff became “extremely  
12 agitated” and stated that “he would do whatever he needed to retain his Single-Cell status” and referred  
13 to his past threats to kill or inflict bodily injury on any inmate that the CDCR attempted to place with  
14 him. (Doc. 9, Ex. A) Plaintiff cautioned that the CDCR should place with him a cell mate who had  
15 committed “a terrible crime against a woman or a child” because “I am a man with a conscious and I  
16 want to make sure they deserve what I am going to do to them.” Id. As a result of these statements, the  
17 hearing was terminated and the committee determined that Plaintiff would be placed in the “ASU to  
18 protect the safety of staff, other inmates, and the institution.”

19 The committee decided to issue Plaintiff a “CDC 115 for the specific act of ‘Threatening Another  
20 Inmate.’” (Doc. 9, Ex. A) On March 1, 2006, Plaintiff was served with the “Administrative Segregation  
21 Unit Placement Notice” which reads,

22 On Tuesday, February 28, 2006, during General Population I.C.C. you threatened to kill  
23 any cellmate, in effect, refusing to be housed with any other inmate. There are no  
24 precluding factors to prevent double cell housing. Therefore, you are being rehoused in  
25 Administrative Segregation due to your threats toward other inmates. Because of these  
concerns, your continued presence within the general population presents a threat to the  
safety and security of the prison. You will remain in Administrative Segregation pending  
administrative review and further investigation. As a result of this placement, your

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26  
27 <sup>2</sup>However, because the claims are raised against the same defendants, the complaint does not offend Fed.R.Civ.P.  
18(a).

28 <sup>3</sup>The Court is aware that “SNY” refers to the “Special Needs Yard” which houses inmates who require protective  
custody.

1 custody status/level, credit earnings, privilege group and visiting rights are subject to  
2 change . . .

3 (Doc. 9, Ex. D) This constituted a “Division D [level] offense”<sup>4</sup> and was classified as a “serious”  
4 offense. Id. Plaintiff was found guilty of the offense and was assessed a credit forfeiture of 90 days.  
5 Id.

6 On March 9, 2006, Plaintiff attended another ICC hearing in the Ad Seg Unit. (Doc. 9 at 6) The  
7 committee was made up of defendants Williams, Brown and Reeves. Id. The purpose of the hearing  
8 was to determine whether Plaintiff would be retained in Ad Seg. Id. Plaintiff reported again that he  
9 refused to accept a cell mate. Id. Plaintiff alleges that in response, defendant Trimble told Plaintiff that  
10 “We have ways of changing your mind” and defendant Reeves explained that “We will strip you down  
11 naked and throw you in an empty cell. You won’t even have a mattress or a strip of paper to cover the  
12 vent with. You’ll be begging us to give you a cellie when you’re frozen to the bone.” Id. When Plaintiff  
13 continued to refuse to accept a cell mate, Reeves recommended that he be placed on “management  
14 status” and Trimble indicated that he agreed. Id.

15 Defendants Munoz and Singleton placed Plaintiff in his cell, clad only in a t-shirt, boxers and  
16 a pair of socks. (Doc. 9 at 7) He was provided a blanket, a bar of soap and a roll of toilet paper. Id.  
17 Plaintiff alleges that the outside, nighttime temperatures had been below freezing at the time and that  
18 there had been only unheated air blown into the Ad Seg unit for the ten days that he had been there. Id.  
19 Plaintiff alleges that the cell was quite cold and that he was left in the cell for 24 hours until he agreed  
20 to accept a cell mate. Id. at 7-8. Plaintiff asserts that he “had previously maintained his single-cell-status  
21 for several years through non-violent means. But due to the torture, plaintiff simply waited until he was  
22 released from adseg and assaulted two different cellmates on the first day back in General Population  
23 in order to regain his single-cell-status.” Id. at 8.

24 Plaintiff alleges that he was released from Ad Seg on May 2, 2006. (Doc. 9 at 12) On that day,  
25 Plaintiff engaged in two fights, as promised, with two proposed cell mates. (Doc. 9 at 32-33) As a result  
26 of this misconduct, Plaintiff was returned to Ad Seg where he remained until September 17, 2006. (Doc.

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27  
28 <sup>4</sup>A Division D offense includes “Willfully resisting, delaying, or obstructing any peace officer in the performance  
of duty” which carries with it the potential punishment of forfeiture of up to 90 days credit. Title 15 CCR § 3323 (f)(7)

1 9 at 26-27)

2 During the first fight on May 2, 2006, Plaintiff was ordered to the ground and he complied.  
3 (Doc. 9 at 32-33) When he was being handcuffed, Plaintiff alleges that Defendant Redding leaned on  
4 his back which caused Plaintiff pain for several days. Id. Then Redding tightened the handcuffs on  
5 Plaintiff too tightly. Id. This caused Plaintiff pain in his wrists for several days. Id. When he was  
6 walked out of the room, the officers pulled Plaintiff's handcuffed hands up, causing Plaintiff to walk the  
7 200 yards to the program office while bent over. Id. This caused Plaintiff pain. Id. When he engaged  
8 in the fight, he was barefoot. Id. Thus, as he walked to the program office, he had to walk barefoot over  
9 grass and gravel. Id.

10 During the second fight, the documents attached to the complaint indicate that Defendant  
11 Redding saw Plaintiff walk toward another inmate, Gentry (Plaintiff's new cell mate) (Doc. 9 at 36), and  
12 begin striking him in the upper torso and face with his fist. (Doc. 9 Ex F) Redding gave Plaintiff  
13 numerous orders to stop fighting and to "get down" on the ground. Id. Plaintiff ignored the orders and  
14 continued striking Gentry in the face until Gentry fell to the ground and then Plaintiff began kicking  
15 Gentry. Id. Redding used his expandable baton and struck Plaintiff in the upper left thigh and continued  
16 to give Plaintiff commands to "get down" on the ground. Id. Plaintiff continued to ignore the  
17 commands and stood over Gentry, taunting him. Id. Redding struck Plaintiff again on his lower left leg.  
18 Id. This time Gentry fell to the ground and the fight ended. Id.

19 However, Plaintiff alleges, instead, that the use of force occurred after the Plaintiff had fully  
20 complied with Redding's orders. (Doc. 9 at 36-37) Plaintiff alleges that Redding was already angry  
21 with him based upon an incident that happened a few hours before the fights. During this earlier  
22 incident, Defendant Redding threatened to use force against Plaintiff if he continued to refuse to accept  
23 a cell mate. (Doc. 9 at 35) During this contact, Redding told Plaintiff that he was being housed with a  
24 cell mate and assigned Plaintiff to the top bunk. (Doc. 9 at 37) When Redding learned from the cell  
25 mate that Plaintiff was attempting to force the cell mate to take the top bunk, Plaintiff alleges that  
26 Redding took him to the sally port and assaulted him by pushing his head into the wall while holding  
27 Plaintiff's right arm behind him. Id.

28 As a result of the fight with Gentry, Plaintiff was charged with a "serious," D-level offense and

1 was found guilty of mutual combat. (Doc. 9, Ex F) Plaintiff contends that after the fight, he complained  
2 to Defendant McBride that he believed that his ankle was broken. (Doc. 9 at 40) Nevertheless McBride  
3 ignored this complaint and forced Plaintiff to walk on the ankle as described above. Id. Plaintiff  
4 complains that he was given no medical attention for two days, though the medical report he attaches  
5 to his complaint demonstrates that he was given medical attention within five minutes of the fight. (Doc.  
6 9, at 45-46; Ex I) When asked about the circumstances of the injury, Plaintiff responded “No comment.”  
7 (Doc. 9, Ex I) The nurse who saw Plaintiff observed that he was “ambulatory.” Id. Plaintiff claims that,  
8 though he had a laceration on his thigh, the wound was not cleaned or bandaged. (Doc. 9 at 47)

9         On May 5, 2006, Plaintiff’s ankle was seen by Dr. Benyamin and then by specialist, Dr. Ferro.  
10 (Doc. 9, Ex J) Dr. Ferro determined that Plaintiff had a “small distal fibular fracture” of his ankle and  
11 he provided “direct supervision” while Dr. Benyamin placed the ankle in a fiberglass cast. (Doc. 9, Ex  
12 F) At the time, Plaintiff had only “mild to moderate tenderness.” (Doc. 9, Ex. J) Dr. Ferro noted that  
13 Plaintiff “states that he has been walking on this since [being hit by the baton] and that he does have  
14 some associated pain and swelling” but “no pain over his hind foot, mid foot or fore foot areas including  
15 his metatarsals.” Id. Dr. Ferro observed that Plaintiff “does have some distal lateral swelling and  
16 ecchymosis.” Id. Dr. Ferro told Plaintiff that the cast would be removed in five to six weeks but “If he  
17 has any questions or concerns in the interim he knows that he can always get ahold of me on A-yard and  
18 I will be happy to see him there.” Id.

19         On May 7, 2006 and May 8, 2006, Plaintiff complained to Defendant Dishman that his toes were  
20 turning purple. (Doc. 9 at 50) On May 9 he was examined by Dr. Benyamin who determined that the  
21 cast was too tight. Id. Later that day, Plaintiff was taken to an outside medical facility where the doctor  
22 there felt that the ankle should have been placed in a splint until the swelling subsided. Id. The doctor  
23 placed him in a plaster cast that was designed to expand with the swelling. Id.

24         Plaintiff complains also that the cast was removed 11 to 18 days later than Dr. Ferro’s initial  
25 estimate that he would wear the cast for five to six weeks. (Doc. 9 at 54-56) Plaintiff claims that this  
26 delay in removing the cast made the recovery more difficult. Id. He alleges that he was not given  
27 physical therapy, orthopedic shoes or effective, assistive walking devices afterward. (Doc. 9 at 56-58)  
28 He claims that this prolonged his recovery. Id.



1           On March 3, 2006, Plaintiff was told by custodial staff that he would be placed on the exercise  
2 yard, along with all of the other inmates in “H” section of the Ad Seg unit, to allow maintenance work  
3 to occur on the cell doors. (Doc. 9 at 19-20) Plaintiff refused to be taken to the yard because he felt that  
4 it was too cold to be outside. Id. He would cooperate with being “cuffed up” for transport only when  
5 the officers agreed to place him in a holding cell with a bench rather than going onto the exercise yard.  
6 Id. However, the officers placed him in a small “telephone booth” sized holding cell, without a bench.  
7 Id. Plaintiff was left in the cell for three hours and, when he became tired, was forced to sit on the floor  
8 with his knees bent, due to the small size of the cell. Id.

9           Furthermore, Plaintiff complains that although outdoor exercise was made available to him on  
10 a regular basis, he refused to participate in it because he felt that the outdoor temperatures were too cold.  
11 (Doc. 9 at 25-26) He asserts that because he had inadequate clothing for the outdoor temperatures, in  
12 essence, he was deprived of outdoor exercise. Id.

13           Also, on March 5, 2006, Plaintiff submitted a form requesting a refill of his medication for his  
14 acid reflux condition. (Doc. 9, Ex. E) He reported on his “Health Care Service Request Form” that “my  
15 acid reflux is severe, hurry please. I cannot lay down without pain.” Id. The request was evaluated as  
16 “routine” by Defendant Stephenson, a registered nurse, and he was referred to “MD line for addressing  
17 med issue.” Id. He was seen by a medical professional on March 21, 2006 and the next day received his  
18 medication. Id. Plaintiff alleges that this caused him to suffer severe pain “repeatedly throughout the  
19 day,” whenever he lay down and that the pain would interrupt his sleep. (Doc. 9 at 18) He complains  
20 also that when he became ill, the medical staff diagnosed his symptoms as a common cold although he  
21 contended that it was caused by unsanitary conditions. (Doc. 9 at 29)

22           Plaintiff alleges that throughout the time that he was in Ad Seg, he and the other inmates housed  
23 there, suffered cold air being blown through the ventilation system and that they were without adequate  
24 clothing to stay warm. (Doc. 9 at 21-22) Plaintiff complains that the Ad Seg building was made of  
25 concrete which was very cold and that this increased the effect of the cold blowing air. Id. Plaintiff  
26 complains also that inmates in Ad Seg were given no outer garments and were forced to wear only t-  
27 shirts, boxers and socks. Id. However, conversely, Plaintiff admits that he was provided thermal  
28 underwear and that he had them in his possession from March 3, 2006 through April 24, 2006. Id.

1 However, because the thermal wear was supposed to have been surrendered on April 2, 2006 (although  
2 Plaintiff did not do so), Plaintiff could not wear the thermals all of the time for fear that they would be  
3 confiscated as contraband. Id.

4 Sometimes, when sharing a shower-cell, Plaintiff was forced to wait his turn to shower near the  
5 front of the cell which was drafty or had to wait in the shower cell, while still damp from his shower,  
6 which made him cold. Id. Plaintiff alleges that the shower cell was not cleaned everyday and that the  
7 method of cleaning was insufficient. (Doc. 9 at 27-28) He complains that the water pressure in the  
8 shower cells was low and he was given inadequate time to shave. Id. Plaintiff alleges that the nail  
9 clippers that were available for use were often broken so he was forced to bite his nails to trim them.  
10 Id. Plaintiff contends that his cell was inadequately cleaned and furnished and when Plaintiff was given  
11 a jumpsuit to wear to “an adseg committee hearing,” it was not clean.

12 Plaintiff complains also that when he was transferred to Ad Seg, his belongings, except those  
13 noted above, were confiscated, including his stamps. (Doc. 9 at 31) When he wrote a letter and  
14 attempted to mail it in an “indigent” envelope obtained from a fellow-inmate, prison staff returned it to  
15 him because he was not indigent and had money in his prison trust fund account to pay for postage. Id.

16 Based upon these factual allegations, Plaintiff alleges 21 “claims” of violations of the Eighth  
17 Amendment prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment.

### 18 **III. DISCUSSION**

#### 19 **A. Statute of Limitations for § 1983 actions**

20 For actions brought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, federal courts apply the forum state’s statute  
21 of limitations period for personal injury actions. Wilson v. Garcia, 471 U.S. 261, 266-80 (1985); Jones  
22 v. Blanas, 393 F.3d 918, 927 (9th Cir. 2004). Prior to January 1, 2003, the statute of limitations period  
23 in California for personal injury claims was one year. Maldonado v. Harris, 370 F.3d 945, 954 (9th Cir.  
24 2004). Effective January 1, 2003, the statute of limitations period in California for personal injury  
25 claims was extended to two years. Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 335.1. The extension of the statute of  
26 limitations period to two years applies to all claims that were not yet time-barred as of January 1, 2003  
27 by the then-applicable statute of limitations period. Andonagui v. May Dept. Stores Co., 128 Cal. App.  
28 4th 590, 597-98 (2009). However, the extension of the statute of limitations period cannot revive claims

1 that were already time-barred under the previous one-year statute of limitations period. Id.; Maldonado,  
2 370 F.3d at 954.

3 Federal courts also apply the forum state’s laws regarding tolling to the extent that state law is  
4 not inconsistent with federal law. Jones, 393 F.3d at 927. Under California law, a prisoner is entitled  
5 to statutory tolling for up to two years if the cause of action accrued during incarceration. Cal. Civ. Proc.  
6 Code § 352.1. This section reads, “If a person entitled to bring an action, . . . is, at the time the cause  
7 of action accrued, imprisoned on a criminal charge, or in execution under the sentence of a criminal  
8 court for a term less than for life, the time of that disability is not a part of the time limited for the  
9 commencement of the action, not to exceed two years.” In Martinez v. Gomez, 137 F.3d 1124, 1126  
10 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1998), the Court relied upon Grasso v. McDonough Power Equipment, Inc., 264 Cal.App.2d  
11 597, 599-601 (Cal. App. 1<sup>st</sup> Dist. 1968) and determined that the phrase “term less than for life,” does not  
12 preclude an inmate serving an indeterminate life sentence from receiving the benefit of the tolling  
13 provision. Thus, because Plaintiff is serving an indeterminate life sentence, and he is raising claims that  
14 accrued while he was incarcerated on that sentence, his statute of limitations was tolled for four years.

15 **B. The case was commenced at the filing of the complaint.**

16 Though Plaintiff asserts that the action was commenced at the filing of his motion to proceed in  
17 forma pauperis (Doc. 9 at 2), this is incorrect. Plaintiff cites Powell v. Jacor Communications Corporate,  
18 320 F.3d 599, 602-603 (6<sup>th</sup> Dist. 2003), in support of his position. (Doc. 6 at 2) However, in Powell,  
19 the plaintiff filed her complaint *at the same time* as her IFP motion which was two days *before* the  
20 expiration of the statute of limitations. Powell, at 602-603. The issue presented to the court was  
21 whether the complaint would be deemed to be timely despite that it was not “filed” while the IFP motion  
22 was pending. Id. The court held that because the complaint was received by the Court before the statute  
23 of limitations expired, the delay in “filing” the complaint caused by the pendency of the IFP motion, did  
24 not make the action untimely. Id. The court had no occasion to determine whether filing an IFP motion  
25 *without* filing an accompanying complaint would have been sufficient to toll the statute of limitations.<sup>5</sup>

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27 <sup>5</sup>It would be illogical to determine that an IFP motion, without filing a complaint, tolled the statute of limitations.  
28 An IFP motion is made *in lieu of* paying a filing fee. A filing fee is not due *until a complaint is filed*. Moreover, an IFP  
motion may be denied if the complaint is frivolous or malicious, fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted or  
seeks a damage award against a defendant who is immune from that type of relief. 28 U.S.C. 1915(e); Franklin v. Murphy,

1 Likewise, in Move Organization v. Philadelphia, 530 F.Supp. 764, 766 (E.D. PA 1982), the court  
2 determined that the complaint was timely given that it was filed along with the motion to proceed IFP  
3 before the expiration of the statute of limitations.

4 Under Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 3, “A civil action is commenced by filing a  
5 complaint with the court.” Thus, according to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 3, it is the *timely*  
6 *filing of the complaint* that tolls the statute of limitations, not the filing of an IFP motion. For example,  
7 in Baldwin County Welcome Ctr. v. Brown, 466 U.S. 147, 148 (U.S. 1984), the plaintiff filed her “right-  
8 to-sue” letter within the statute of limitations period. Along with the letter, she submitted a request for  
9 appointment of counsel. Id. In rejecting that this was sufficient, the Court found that the right-to-sue  
10 letter did not suffice as a complaint because it failed to set forth a short, plain statement of the case as  
11 required by Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 8. Id. at 149. The Court reiterated that strict  
12 compliance with Rule 3 is required to “commence” litigation and toll the statute of limitations. The  
13 Court observed,

14 Procedural requirements established by Congress for gaining access to the federal courts  
15 are not to be disregarded by courts out of a vague sympathy for particular litigants. As  
16 we stated in Mohasco Corp. v. Silver, 447 U.S. 807, 826 (1980), “in the long run,  
experience teaches that strict adherence to the procedural requirements specified by the  
legislature is the best guarantee of evenhanded administration of the law.”

17 Id. at 152.

18 Therefore, the Court finds that Plaintiff’s act of filing his motion to proceed IFP did not toll the  
19 statute of limitations. Moreover, assuming without deciding that the mailbox rule applies (despite  
20 Plaintiff’s failure to use the Court’s correct address), the Court finds that all claims occurring before  
21 March 8, 2006, are barred by the statute of limitations. Therefore, Claims 2 through 7, Claim 11 and  
22 Claims 8 through 10 (only as to the acts in Claims 8 through 10 that are alleged to have occurred before  
23 March 8, 2006) are **DISMISSED**.

24 **C. Eighth Amendment claims - Conditions of Confinement**

25 The Eighth Amendment’s prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment protects prisoners  
26 from inhumane conditions of confinement. Morgan v. Morgensen, 465 F.3d 1041, 1045 (9th Cir. 2006)

27 \_\_\_\_\_  
28 745 F.2d 1221, 1226-1227 (9th Cir. 1984). Thus, an IFP motion cannot be evaluated in the absence of a complaint for damages.

1 (citing Farmer v. Brennan, 511 U.S. 825, 832 (1994)). To plead a viable conditions of confinement  
2 claim, a plaintiff must allege facts satisfying both an objective and subjective component. See Wilson  
3 v. Seiter, 501 U.S. 294, 298 (1991). First, a plaintiff must demonstrate an objectively serious  
4 deprivation, one that amounts to a denial of “the minimal civilized measures of life’s necessities.”  
5 Keenan v. Hall, 83 F.3d 1083, 1089 (9th Cir. 1996) (quoting Rhodes v. Chapman, 452 U.S. 337, 346  
6 (1981)). The Eighth Amendment’s prohibition on cruel and unusual punishment “‘does not mandate  
7 comfortable prisons,’ and conditions imposed may be ‘restrictive and even harsh.’” Barney v. Pulsipher,  
8 143 F.3d 1299, 1311 (10th Cir. 1998) (quoting Rhodes v. Chapman, 452 U.S. at 347. Instead the facts  
9 must demonstrate “conditions posing a substantial risk of serious harm.” Farmer, 511 U.S. at 834.  
10 Minor deprivations suffered for short periods of time will not rise to the level of an Eighth Amendment  
11 violation but “substantial deprivations of shelter, food, drinking water, and sanitation” may meet the  
12 standard despite their even shorter duration. Johnson v. Lewis, 217 F.3d 726, 732 (9th Cir. 2000); see  
13 also Whitnack v. Douglas County, 16 F.3d 954, 958 (8th Cir. 1994) (“the length of time required before  
14 a constitutional violation is made out decreases as the level of filthiness increases.”).

15 Second, a plaintiff must show that prison officials acted with a sufficiently culpable state of  
16 mind, that of “deliberate indifference.” Wilson, 501 U.S. at 303; Johnson, 217 F.3d at 733. In other  
17 words, a prison official is liable for inhumane conditions of confinement only if “the official knows of  
18 and disregards an excessive risk to inmate health and safety; the official must both be aware of facts  
19 from which the inference could be drawn that a substantial risk of serious harm exists, and he must also  
20 draw the inference.” Farmer, 511 U.S. at 837.

21 *i. Claim 1- Management Status*

22 Plaintiff alleges that he was placed on “management status” on March 9, 2006, due to his  
23 ongoing refusal to accept a cell mate and his repeated threats to kill any cell mate placed with him.  
24 (Doc. 9 at 6-7) As noted above, Plaintiff was “cleared” to “double cell” on February 28, 2006. (Doc.  
25 9, Ex. A) Until this date, Plaintiff had been able to avoid having a cell mate by making threats to kill  
26 those placed with him. Id.; Doc. 9 at 32-33.

27 The May 25, 2003 “Double-Cell Housing Policy” maintained by the CDCR reads,  
28 It is departmental policy and therefore the expectation that inmates double-cell and

1 accept housing assignments as directed by staff . . . If staff determine that an inmate is,  
2 suitable for double-celled housing, the inmate shall be expected to accept the housing  
3 assignment and shall be held accountable and responsible for his or her actions and  
subject to, disciplinary action as a result of staff enforcing the double-cell housing  
assignment.

4 (Doc. 9, Ex B) Moreover, the Policy instructs,

5 If the inmate conveys to staff a threat against any prospective cellmate and the threat  
6 prevents staff from double-ceiling the inmate, the inmate shall be issued a CDC Form  
7 115 charging him or her with the specific act of ““Willfully Delaying/Obstructing a Peace  
Officer in Performance of Their Duties by Means of a Threat,” a Division D level offense  
(Penal Code [PC] Section 69).

8 Id. Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations section 3005(c) instructs that “Inmates shall not refuse  
9 to accept a housing assignment such as but not limited to, an integrated housing assignment or a double  
10 cell assignment, when case factors do not preclude such.” Likewise, Title 15 of the California Code of  
11 Regulations section 3269 reads,

12 Inmates shall accept Inmate Housing Assignments (IHAs) as directed by staff. It is the  
13 expectation that all inmates double cell . . . If staff determines an inmate is suitable for  
14 double celling, . . . the inmate shall accept the housing assignment or be subject to  
disciplinary action for refusing. . .Inmates are not entitled to single cell assignment . . .

15 Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations section 3332(f) defines provides,

16 An inmate who persists in unduly disruptive, destructive or dangerous behavior and who  
17 will not heed or respond to orders and warnings to desist from such activity, may be  
18 placed in a management cell on an order of the unit’s administrator or, in his or her  
absence, an order of the watch commander.

19 This Court has determined that placing an inmate in management status does not offend the  
20 Eighth Amendment. In Loeb v. Felker, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 14280 at \*14-15 (E.D. CA 2007), the  
21 Court held,

22 California’s regulations permit prison officials to place a prisoner on management cell  
23 status if he persists in disruptive, destructive or dangerous behavior (i.e. cell extraction,  
24 refusal to exit the yard, etc.). While on management status, a prisoner receives one t-shirt,  
one pair of socks, one pair of boxer shorts, and one blanket. He also may be denied yard  
25 access. **While plaintiff argues that these conditions are harsh, they are not  
sufficiently serious to be violative of the Eighth Amendment.** Johnson v. Lewis, 217  
26 F.3d at 732. Plaintiff was on management cell status for relatively short periods of time  
27 to address his refusals to follow orders, and the limited duration of those time periods  
counsels against finding an Eighth Amendment violation. Id. The measures taken to  
respond to each of plaintiff’s episodes of disruptive behavior were reasonable. On the  
evidence presented here, no reasonable jury could find in plaintiff’s favor on this claim.

28 Notably, before being placed on management status, Plaintiff was given a hearing. (Doc. 9 at 6) He was

1 confronted with his past refusal to accept a cell mate and his threats to kill inmate any placed with him.  
2 Id. Rather than acquiescing to the double cell assignment, Plaintiff continued to threaten to kill any cell  
3 mate placed with him. Id. Management status is designed to discipline inmates who refuse to comply  
4 with orders to cease disruptive conduct. Thus, the fact that Plaintiff was placed on management status,  
5 with the concomitant reduction in privileges and the removal of excess possessions, does not state a  
6 claim under the Eighth Amendment.

7         However, Plaintiff complains that while on management status for approximately 24 hours, his  
8 cell was quite cold. (Doc. 9 at 6) Plaintiff complains that for the ten days prior, the ventilation system  
9 had been blowing unheated air and that the outside temperatures were below freezing at night. Id. at 7.  
10 He alleges that the walls and floor of his cell felt “like ice to the touch.” Id. Given his management  
11 status, had only a t-shirt, a pair of boxers, a pair of socks and one blanket. Id. The piece of cardboard  
12 that he used to cover his ventilation outlet in the days before his transfer to management status was  
13 removed as well. Id. Plaintiff alleges that Defendants Trimble, Williams, Brown and Reeves were  
14 aware of the temperature in the cell and decided to place him there without adequate clothing was  
15 deliberate for the purpose of causing harm. Id. at 6.

16         In Johnson v. Lewis, 217 F.3d at 731-732, the Court held that there was a question of fact  
17 whether requiring inmates to remain in subfreezing temperatures without sufficient clothing or blankets  
18 for five to nine hours may be sufficient to state an Eighth Amendment claim. Thus, though it seems  
19 unlikely that Plaintiff was subject to subfreezing temperatures while he was held in management status,  
20 he has pleaded sufficiently to state a claim for a violation of the Eighth Amendment against Defendants  
21 Trimble, Williams, Brown and Reeves related to the temperature of the cell only.

22         Plaintiff names Defendants Munoz and Singleton who were charged with the duty of removing  
23 Plaintiff’s excess property from him. (Doc. 9 at 7) There are no facts alleged that these defendants knew  
24 of the temperature of the cell or that they removed the property for the purpose of causing constitutional  
25 harm. Instead, the complaints implies that property was removed merely because Plaintiff’s  
26 management status required it. Loeb v. Felker, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 14280 at \*14-15. Thus, as to  
27 Defendants Munoz and Singleton, Claim 1 is **DISMISSED**.

28 ///

1                                   A.        *Supervisory liability under 42 USC § 1983*

2           Plaintiff alleges that Warden Yates and Former Secretary of the CDCR Hickman are liable for  
3 the temperature of the cell. However, there are no facts alleged that either person played any role in  
4 determining the temperature of Plaintiff’s cell. Instead, Plaintiff seems to believe that they are liable  
5 merely due to their high supervisory levels within the CDCR. This is insufficient.

6           There is no respondeat superior liability under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Palmer v. Sanderson, 9 F.3d  
7 1433, 1437-38 (9th Cir. 1993); Monell, 436 U.S. at 691 (the supervisor of someone who allegedly  
8 violated a plaintiff’s constitutional rights is not made liable for the violation by virtue of that role).  
9 “Liability under § 1983 arises only upon a showing of personal participation by the defendant. (Citation.)  
10 A supervisor is only liable for constitutional violations of his subordinates if the supervisor participated  
11 in or directed the violations, or knew of the violations and failed to act to prevent them. There is no  
12 respondeat superior liability under § 1983.” Taylor v. List, 880 F.2d 1040, 1045 (9th Cir. 1989), citation  
13 omitted. Recently, the Supreme Court rejected that a supervisor can be held liable for his mere  
14 “knowledge and acquiescence” in unlawful conduct by his subordinates. Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 129 S. Ct.  
15 at 1949. The Court held,

16                   . . . respondent believes a supervisor’s mere knowledge of his subordinate’s  
17 discriminatory purpose amounts to the supervisor's violating the Constitution. We reject  
18 this argument. Respondent's conception of “supervisory liability” is inconsistent with his  
19 accurate stipulation that petitioners may not be held accountable for the misdeeds of their  
20 agents. **In a § 1983 suit or a *Bivens* action--where masters do not answer for the torts  
of their servants--the term “supervisory liability” is a misnomer. Absent vicarious  
liability, each Government official, his or her title notwithstanding, is only liable for  
his or her own misconduct.**

21 Id., emphasis added. Therefore, Plaintiff has not stated a claim against Defendants Yates and Hickman  
22 and the claim against them is **DISMISSED**.

23 Conclusion

24           As to Claim 1, Plaintiff has stated an Eighth Amendment violation against Defendants Trimble,  
25 Williams, Brown and Reeves related to the temperature of the cell only. He has not stated a claim  
26 against any other defendant and as to them, the claim is **DISMISSED**.

27                   ii.        *Claim 8- Temperature in Ad Seg from March 8, 2006 through Sept. 17, 2006*

28           Plaintiff claims that while he was housed in Ad Seg, the temperature of his cell was cold. (Doc.



1 9 at 21) He claims that the ventilation system blew only unheated air into the cell while the outside  
2 temperatures were cold and when spring and summer arrived, the air conditioner blew cold air into the  
3 cell. Id. He complains that the thermal underwear that he had been issued on March 3, 2006 were  
4 confiscated on April 24, 2006 (the bottoms) and on May 2, 2006 (the top). Id. at 23 -24. Likewise, he  
5 complains that while in Ad Seg, he was not permitted to keep excess clothing and belongings that he  
6 could have used to keep warm. Id. Plaintiff alleges also that remaining in his bed did not provide  
7 sufficient warmth because the concrete walls radiated the cool temperatures. Id.

8 The fact that an inmate is required to “bundle up” while indoors does not state an Eighth  
9 Amendment claim. Dixon v. Godinez, 114 F.3d 640 (7th Cir. Ill. 1997). However, Plaintiff alleges that  
10 he was not provided sufficient clothing or blankets to allow him to adequately “bundle up.”<sup>6</sup> Thus,  
11 ordinarily, the facts would be sufficient to state an Eighth Amendment challenge. Wilson v. Seiter, 501  
12 U.S. 294, 304 (U.S. 1991).

13 Nevertheless, Plaintiff fails to allege any facts that any of the named defendants had any control  
14 over the temperature in his cell. Instead, he merely concludes that they had control.<sup>7</sup> Moreover, Plaintiff  
15 admits that the names these defendants merely because, “[t]hey were all ranking officers who were in  
16 charge of the adseg unit.” (Doc. 9 at 24) This is insufficient. Leer v. Murphy, 844 F.2d 628, 633 (9th  
17 Cir. 1993). In addition, for the same reasons set forth in B.i.A. above, Plaintiff has failed to state a claim  
18 against Defendants Yates and Hickman. Therefore, the claim must be **DISMISSED**.

### 19 Conclusion

20 As to Claim 8, Plaintiff has not stated an Eighth Amendment violation against any Defendant.  
21 Thus, the claim is **DISMISSED**.

22 *iii. Claim 9- Denial of outdoor exercise from March 8, 2006 through May 1, 2006<sup>8</sup>*

23 \_\_\_\_\_  
24 <sup>6</sup>On the other hand, if the temperatures were only sufficiently low to allow the correctional officers, while uniformed  
25 and moving about, to work in a comfortable temperature, it seems that Plaintiff’s claims about the temperature in his cell may  
be overstated. (Doc. 9 at 24) However, this is a question of fact that cannot be resolved at this juncture.

26 <sup>7</sup>Moreover, the lack of control over the cell temperature is demonstrated by the allegation that Defendant Brown  
used a space heater in his office. (Doc. 9 at 24)

27 <sup>8</sup>Though Plaintiff alleges that the exercise deprivation continued through May 2, 2006, due to his placement in Ad  
28 Seg, in fact he was released from Ad Seg on May 2, 2006 but returned there later the same day after he attacked and beat two  
prospective cell mates. (Doc. 9 at 12, 32-33)

1 Plaintiff alleges that he was offered outdoor exercise three times per week but because he was  
2 not provided outdoor clothing or permitted to bring blankets or sheets outside, in essence, he was denied  
3 outdoor exercise. (Doc. 9 at 25) Plaintiff alleges that the outdoor temperatures “during the cold season  
4 was very harsh.”<sup>9</sup> Id. Plaintiff alleges that the outside exercise period lasted between three and four  
5 hours and that once outside, he was not permitted to return inside until the exercise period ended. Id.

6 Although exposure to inclement weather without proper clothing can meet the objective prong  
7 of an Eighth Amendment violation (Gordon v. Faber, 973 F.2d 686, 687-689 (8th Cir. 1992)), here,  
8 Plaintiff was never forced to go outside. Likewise, he was never deprived of exercise time; in fact, he  
9 was offered exercise periods three times per week for three to four hours each. (Doc. 9 at 25) He chose  
10 not to engage in the exercise because he was dissatisfied with the weather conditions.<sup>10</sup>

11 However, Plaintiff’s allegations raise an inference that the offer of exercise was illusory because  
12 the temperatures, coupled with the lack of outdoor-wear, made participation in the exercise impossible.  
13 Because the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal has determined that deprivation of exercise for six-and-one-  
14 half weeks is a violation of the Eighth Amendment (Lopez v. Smith, 203 F.3d 1122, 1132-1133),  
15 Plaintiff has alleged sufficient facts under this claim.

16 However, Plaintiff fails to provide sufficient facts to link each or any of the named defendants  
17 to the alleged harm. Though he alleges that he told various defendants that he could not go out unless  
18 he was provided with additional clothing, he has failed to provide any facts that any single defendant  
19 knew how much exercise time he had missed. Temporary deprivations of exercise time are insufficient  
20 to state a constitutional violation. May v. Baldwin, 109 F.3d 557, 565 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1997). Moreover, he  
21 asserts that Brown and Williams are liable only because they are the supervisors of Reeves, Torrez and  
22 Collier. Also, he concludes, without any supporting facts, that Brown and Williams created the policies  
23 that caused the deprivation but he fails to identify the policies or provide any facts demonstrating that,

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24  
25 <sup>9</sup> Plaintiff fails to provide any allegation as to the actual outdoor temperatures. In the Court’s experience, the winter  
26 temperatures in Coalinga, California, where PVSP is located, is rarely harsh and never “very harsh.” Thus, it appears that  
27 Plaintiff may be overstating his claims. However, once again, Plaintiff has created a factual question that cannot be resolved  
28 at this stage of the litigation.

<sup>10</sup> Though being forced to endure subfreezing temperatures for less than five hours, does not necessarily constitute  
an Eighth Amendment claim (Johnson v. Lewis, 217 F.3d at 731-732), Plaintiff has alleged sufficient facts to state a claim  
under the Eighth Amendment.

1 in fact, either defendant or the policies caused the deprivation. Finally, for the same reason as stated  
2 before, Plaintiff has failed to provide any facts linking defendant Yates to the alleged deprivation.  
3 Therefore Plaintiff has failed to state a claim and Claim 9 must be **DISMISSED**.

4 Conclusion

5 As to Claim 9, Plaintiff has not stated an Eighth Amendment violation against any Defendant.  
6 Thus, the claim is **DISMISSED**.

7 *iv. Claim 10- Cleanliness of Plaintiff's cell and the shower cells*

8 Plaintiff complains that while he was in Ad Seg, he was not provided cleaning supplies to use  
9 in his cell and complains that he was not provided a place to hang his towel. (Doc. 9 at 27) Likewise,  
10 Plaintiff complains that there was only one desk in his cell, despite having to share it with another  
11 inmate. Id. He contends that only one inmate could use the desk while eating. Id. at 28. Even still,  
12 Plaintiff complains that the desk was used as a stepping platform onto the top bunk and, as such, it was  
13 unhygienic to place his food tray on the desk. Id. Rather than sit on the bunk and hold the tray on his  
14 lap or place the try on the bed surface while eating, Plaintiff alleges that he had to sit on the toilet with  
15 the food tray on his lap while eating. Id.

16 He complains also that his fingernails were broken on occasion and the clippers that he could use  
17 were often broken which required him to chew his broken nails to trim them. (Doc. 9 at 27) Plaintiff  
18 complains also that the shower cells were not cleaned everyday and the method by which they were  
19 cleaned, through "hosedown," was insufficient. Id. Plaintiff asserts that the hot water knob was  
20 "perpetually smeared with soap" and that there was a "blood" stain on the shower for many days.<sup>11</sup> Id.  
21 Likewise, Plaintiff complains also that the water pressure in the shower was low which made it difficult  
22 to wash properly and shave in the five minutes allowed. Id. Plaintiff asserts that the water was not as  
23 hot as in the general population and describes the temperature as "lukewarm at best." Id. Plaintiff  
24 complains also that the shower cells were inadequately furnished and he was forced to put his shower  
25 supplies on the floor while washing. Id. at 28. Finally, Plaintiff complains that when he attended an Ad  
26  
27

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28 <sup>11</sup>Plaintiff provides only his conclusion that the stain was blood as opposed to some other material.

1 Seg committee hearing, he was provided a “dirty” jumpsuit.<sup>12</sup> Id. at 28. Plaintiff asserts that wearing  
2 the dirty jumpsuit caused him to have cold-like symptoms and which were incorrectly diagnosed as a  
3 common cold. Id. Based upon these allegations, Plaintiff alleges that he was subject to cruel and  
4 unusual punishment as prohibited by the Eighth Amendment. Id. at 26.

5 In essence, Plaintiff alleges that Defendants were responsible for the inmates and, therefore,  
6 should be held liable for these conditions. However, as noted above, to state a constitutional deprivation,  
7 he must allege facts, not mere conclusions, to demonstrate that each acted to cause the injury and that  
8 they did so with deliberate indifference to this harm. The complaint fails to do this. Mere acquiescence  
9 in a constitutional violation by a supervisor is insufficient. Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 129 S. Ct. at 1949.

10 On the other hand, the allegations made simply do not state a constitutional claim. Subjecting  
11 a “prisoner to lack of sanitation that is severe or prolonged can constitute an infliction of pain within the  
12 meaning of the Eighth Amendment.” Anderson v. County of Kern, 45 F.3d 1310, 1315-1315 (9th Cir.  
13 1995), citing Gee v. Estes, 829 F.2d 1005, 1006 (10th Cir. 1987) (an inmate placed in a lice-infested cell  
14 with no blankets in below forty-degree temperatures, with little or no edible food and left with his head  
15 in excrement while having a seizure stated a claim under the Eight Amendment); McCray v. Burrell, 516  
16 F.2d 357, 366-69 (4th Cir. 1974) (prisoner placed naked in a bare, concrete cell with  
17 excrement-encrusted pit toilet for 48 hours without no bedding, sink, washing facilities, or personal  
18 hygiene stated a claim), cert. denied, 426 U.S. 471 (1976); LaReau v. MacDougall, 473 F.2d 974, 978  
19 (2d Cir. 1972) (prisoner confined for five days in a strip cell with only a pit toilet and no light, sink, or  
20 washing facilities stated a claim).

21 Though Plaintiff alleges conditions that are unpleasant, none rise to the level of severe sanitation  
22 problems such to describe an unconstitutional condition. Famrer v. Brennan, 114 S.Ct. 1977. Courts  
23 have held that conditions far worse than those alleged by Plaintiff do not state an Eighth Amendment  
24 violation. See Geder v. Godinez, 875 F.Supp. 1334, 1341-1342 (N.D. Ill. 1995) (allegations of defective  
25 pipes, sinks and toilets, improperly cleaned showers, broken intercom system, stained mattresses,

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26  
27 <sup>12</sup>He concludes that the jumpsuit was used by other inmates during the day and was left in a n open floor in a bag  
28 between hearings so that it was accessible to crickets and mice. Id. at 28. However, he provides no facts to support these  
conclusions.

1 accumulated dust and dirt, and infestation by roaches and rats, viewed separately or cumulatively, were  
2 insufficient to establish deprivation of human need sufficient to constitute violation of the Eighth  
3 Amendment); Wilson v. Schomig, 863 F.Supp. 789, 794-795 (N.D. Ill. 1994) (absent showing of  
4 physical harm, claim that inmate was forced to sleep on urine- and feces-stained mattress in dirty,  
5 roach-infested cell did not rise to level of Eighth Amendment violation). Therefore, Plaintiff's claims  
6 related to the cleanliness of his cell and the shower, the lack of furnishings in these areas and the failure  
7 to provide nail clippers do not state a claim.

8 Likewise, Plaintiff's claim that he has been forced to wear a dirty jumpsuit on occasion when  
9 attending an Ad Seg hearing was a temporary condition of limited duration that does not amount to a  
10 violation of the Eighth Amendment. Likewise, the fact that Plaintiff disagrees that his cold-like  
11 symptoms were, in fact, caused by his contracting a common cold, does not state a claim. Differences  
12 of opinion between a prisoner and prison medical staff as to proper medical care do not give rise to a §  
13 1983 claim. See Jackson v. McIntosh, 90 F.3d 330, 332 (9th Cir.1996); Sanchez v. Vild, 891 F.2d 240,  
14 242 (9th Cir.1989); Franklin v. Oregon, 662 F.2d 1337, 1344 (9th Cir.1981).

15 Finally, as to the failure to provide hot water in the showers, the complaint is vague. Plaintiff  
16 alleges that the water temperature was "not hot as in GP housing units" and "lukewarm at best," Plaintiff  
17 does not allege facts to support these conclusions. Objective factual allegations, i.e. the temperature of  
18 the water in degrees Fahrenheit, is necessary because what may seem cool to one person may be warm  
19 to another. Likewise, he does not allege how frequently the water was insufficiently warm, i.e., whether  
20 "the hot water had run out" by the time of his shower or whether there was never hot water. Finally, he  
21 fails to provide any factual allegations that the defendants knew that the water was not sufficiently warm,  
22 that they were deliberately indifferent to this condition or that they had any causal connection to the  
23 condition. Thus, this claim must be **DISMISSED**.

#### 24 Conclusion

25 As to Claim 10, Plaintiff has not stated an Eighth Amendment violation against any Defendant.  
26 Thus, the claim is **DISMISSED**.

27 v. *Claims related to Excessive Force*

28 When a prison official uses excessive force against a prisoner, he violates the inmate's Eighth

1 Amendment right to be free from cruel and unusual punishment.” Clement v. Gomez, 298 F.3d 898, 903  
2 (9th Cir.2002). “Force does not amount to a constitutional violation in this respect if it is applied in a  
3 good faith effort to restore discipline and order and not ‘maliciously and sadistically for the very purpose  
4 of causing harm.’” Id. quoting Whitley v. Albers, 475 U.S. 312, 320-21 (1986)). To make this  
5 determination, the Court may evaluate “the need for application of force, the relationship between that  
6 need and the amount of force used, the threat ‘reasonably perceived by the responsible officials,’ . . . ‘any  
7 efforts made to temper the severity of a forceful response’” and the extent of any injury inflicted. Hudson  
8 v. McMillian, 503 U.S. 1, 7 (1992). “‘To state a claim for failure to intervene, Plaintiff must allege  
9 circumstances showing that these officers had an opportunity to intervene and prevent or curtail the  
10 violation (e.g., enough time to observe what was happening and intervene to stop it), but failed to do so.’  
11 Gonzales v. Cate, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 100446, 2010 WL 3749236, \*3 (E.D. Cal., 2010) (citing  
12 Robins v. Meecham, 60 F.3d 1436, 1442 (9th Cir.1995)).” Lanier v. City of Fresno, 2010 U.S. Dist.  
13 LEXIS 130459 (E.D. Cal. Dec. 8, 2010)

14 *A. Claims 12, 13, 14, 15<sup>13</sup> - Excessive Force by Defendant Redding*

15 Plaintiff alleges Defendant Redding used excessive force on him during two fights Plaintiff had  
16 with two cell mates on May 2, 2006 and during a separate incident earlier on the same day. Also,  
17 Plaintiff alleges that Redding lifted his arms up in a painful posture despite there was no penological  
18 purpose for it and despite that he was cooperative and offering no resistance. (Doc. 9 at 40) Because it  
19 is unlawful for an officer to use force on a compliant inmate, these allegations state a cognizable  
20 violation of the Eighth Amendment. LaLonde v. County of Riverside, 204 F.3d 947, 961 (9th Cir.  
21 2000)(use of force on a person after surrender constitutes excessive force).

22 On the other hand, Plaintiff’s claim, that making him walk on his injured ankle constitutes  
23 excessive force, is unsupported. Although Plaintiff alleges that he told McBride within Redding’s  
24 hearing, that he believed that his ankle was broken, Plaintiff does not allege that he had an injury that  
25 was apparent to Redding. In fact, the medical document attached to the complaint, indicates that for four  
26

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27 <sup>13</sup>Though Plaintiff asserts that Claim 15 asserts a claim based upon deliberate indifference to a serious medical  
28 condition, Claim 15 fails for the same reason that Claim 14 fails. There are no facts alleged to demonstrate that Defendant  
knew of the extent of the injury or was deliberately indifferent to it.

1 days after the incident, he had “been walking on” the ankle. (Doc. 9, Ex J’s) Likewise, at the medical  
2 visit, the doctor determined only that Plaintiff had suffered some “mild to moderate tenderness” and  
3 “some associated pain and swelling” from the fracture but “no pain over his hind foot, mid foot or fore  
4 foot areas including his metatarsals.” Id. This, seemingly minimal pain response, contradicts Plaintiff’s  
5 implied allegation that Redding was aware of the extent of the injury or was deliberately indifferent to  
6 it.

7 Also, Plaintiff complains that Redding made Plaintiff walk over grass and gravel despite that he  
8 was barefoot. However, there is no indication that Plaintiff suffered any injury as a result, though he  
9 claims that doing so was painful. Plaintiff fails to demonstrate how walking on grass or gravel without  
10 any resulting cuts, scrapes or apparent injury of any kind demonstrates that excessive force was used.  
11 Likewise, there are no facts alleged that Redding knew that walking on these surfaces would cause harm  
12 or that he selected the route used to escort Plaintiff to the program office or, if he did, that he did so for  
13 the purpose of causing Plaintiff harm. Thus, Plaintiff has not stated a cognizable claim against  
14 Defendant Redding as to these allegations.

15 ***B. Claims 12, 14, 15<sup>14</sup> - Excessive Force by Defendant McBride***

16 As to Claims 12 and 14, Plaintiff alleges that McBride forced him to walk despite that he  
17 informed McBride that Defendant Redding’s baton blows had broken his ankle. (Doc. 9 at 40)  
18 However, for the same reasons described above as to Redding, the fact that McBride determined that  
19 Plaintiff would walk to the program office, does not state a cognizable Eighth Amendment claim because  
20 there is no showing that McBride knew the extent of the ankle injury or that he was deliberately  
21 indifferent to it. Likewise, for the same reasons set forth as to Redding, the fact that Plaintiff walked  
22 barefoot over grass and gravel does not state a cognizable Eighth Amendment claim. Thus, as to  
23 McBride, the claims are **DISMISSED**.

24 ***C. Claim 14- Excessive Force by Defendant Franco***

25 Plaintiff claims that Franco assisted in bringing Plaintiff to his feet after hearing him  
26 report to McBride that he believed that he had a broken ankle from Redding’s baton strike. (Doc. 9 at  
27

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28 <sup>14</sup>See footnote 13.

1 40) He alleges also that Franco held one of Plaintiff's handcuffed wrists up in a painful position which  
2 forced him to walk while bent over for over 200 yards. Id. Plaintiff claims that this was done despite  
3 that he was offering no resistance. Id.

4 For the same reasons described above as to Redding, the fact that Franco assisted in making  
5 Plaintiff walk to the program office over grass and gravel, does not state a cognizable Eighth  
6 Amendment claim because there is no showing that Franco knew the extent of the ankle injury, that  
7 walking on these surfaces would cause harm or that Franco was deliberately indifferent to these risks.  
8 On the other hand, Plaintiff alleges that lifting his arms up in order to force him into a bent-over position  
9 was done despite there being no penological purpose to it given that he was cooperative and offering no  
10 resistance. (Doc. 9 at 40) The Court finds that this is sufficient to allege an Eighth Amendment  
11 violation.

12 *D. Claim 12, 13, 14- Excessive Force by Hickman and Yates*

13 Once again, however, Plaintiff fails to make any factual allegations that link the actions of  
14 Hickman and Yates to the alleged use of excessive force. To the contrary, Plaintiff takes the position  
15 that because they act in supervisory roles, as the Secretary of the CDCR and the warden at the prison,  
16 all unconstitutional acts perpetrated by a subordinate will impose liability upon them. (Doc. 9 at 34.)  
17 Stated differently, Plaintiff seeks to impose liability based upon the doctrine of respondeat superior.  
18 This is not permitted. Palmer v. Sanderson, 9 F.3d 1433, 1437-38 (9th Cir. 1993); Monell, 436 U.S.  
19 at 691. Therefore, the claims as to Defendants Hickman and Yates must be **DISMISSED**.

20 Conclusion

21 As to Defendant Redding, Plaintiff has stated a cognizable claim under the Eighth Amendment's  
22 prohibition against the use of excessive force on Claims 12 and 13. Plaintiff has not stated an Eighth  
23 Amendment claim against Redding for excessive force on his Claim 14 and this claim is **DISMISSED**.

24 As to Defendant McBride, Plaintiff has not stated a cognizable claim under the Eighth  
25 Amendment on Claims 12, 14 and 15 and these claims are **DISMISSED**.

26 As to Defendant Franco, Plaintiff has stated a cognizable claim on Claim 14 for excessive force  
27 under the Eighth Amendment related to the allegation that Franco forced Plaintiff's arms up to cause him  
28 to assume a bent over position despite that Plaintiff was cooperative and submissive at the time.



1 As to Defendants Hickman and Yates, Plaintiff has not stated cognizable claims on Claims 12,  
2 13 or 14 for the use of excessive force and these claims as to these defendants are **DISMISSED**.

3 vi. *Claims related to deliberate indifference to medical care - Claims 15, 16, 17, 18*

4 Deliberate indifference to a serious medical need violates the Eighth Amendment's proscription  
5 against cruel and unusual punishment. Estelle v. Gamble, 429 U.S. 97 (1976); Jett v. Penner, 439 F.3d  
6 1091, 1096 (9th Cir. 2006). "In the Ninth Circuit, the test for deliberate indifference consists of two  
7 parts." Jett, 439 F.3d at 1096. First, the plaintiff must show a serious medical need by demonstrating  
8 that failure to treat the prisoner's condition could result in further significant injury or the unnecessary  
9 and wanton infliction of pain. Jett, 439 F.3d at 1096; McGuckin v. Smith, 974 F.2d 1050, 1059 (9th  
10 Cir.1992), overruled in part on other grounds by WMX Technologies, Inc. v. Miller, 104 F.3d 1133,  
11 1136 (9th Cir. 1997) (en banc). The existence of an injury that a reasonable doctor would find important  
12 and worthy of treatment, the presence of a medical condition that significantly affects an individual's  
13 daily activities, or the existence of chronic and substantial pain are examples of indications that a  
14 prisoner has a "serious" need for medical treatment. McGuckin, 974 at 1059-1060 citing Wood v.  
15 Housewright, 900 F.2d 1332, 1337-41 (9th Cir.1990); Hunt v. Dental Dept, 865 F.2d 198, 200-201 (9th  
16 Cir.1989).

17 "Second, the plaintiff must show the defendant's response to the need was deliberately  
18 indifferent." Jett, 439 F.3d at 1096. A prison official is "deliberately indifferent" if he actually knows  
19 that a prisoner faces a substantial risk of serious harm and disregards that risk. Farmer v. Brennan, 511  
20 U.S. 825, 837 (1994). In other words, the second prong is satisfied by the plaintiff showing "(a) a  
21 purposeful act or failure to respond to a prisoner's pain or possible medical need and (b) harm caused  
22 by the indifference." Jett, 439 F.3d at 1096.

23 "Deliberate indifference is a high legal standard." Toguchi v. Chung, 391 F.3d 1051, 1060 (9th  
24 Cir. 2004). It requires "more than ordinary lack of due care for the prisoner's interests or safety."  
25 Farmer, 511 U.S. at 835, (quoting Whitley v. Albers, 475 U.S. 312, 319 (1986)). The requisite state of  
26 mind lies "somewhere between the poles of negligence at one end and purpose or knowledge at the  
27 other." Id. at 836. It may be shown by "the way in which prison physicians provide medical care."  
28 McGuckin, 974 F.2d at 1062 (9th Cir. 1992).

1 Prison officials may demonstrate “deliberate indifference” when they are aware of the patient’s  
2 condition but “deny, delay or intentionally interfere with medical treatment.” Jett, 439 F.3d at 1096.  
3 However, to establish a claim of deliberate indifference based upon delay in medical treatment, the  
4 inmate must allege facts to show that the delay was harmful. See Berry v. Bunnell, 39 F.3d 1056, 1057  
5 (9th Cir. 1994); Wood v. Housewright, 900 F.2d at 1335; Hunt v. Dental Dep’t, 865 F.2d at 200; Shapley  
6 v. Nevada Bd. of State Prison Comm’rs, 766 F.2d 404, 407 (9th Cir. 1985). “A prisoner need not show  
7 his harm was substantial; however, such would provide additional support for the inmate's claim that  
8 the defendant was deliberately indifferent to his needs.” Jett, 439 F.3d at 1096.

9 *A. Claim 16- Against McBride and Herrera*

10 Plaintiff complains that when he was taken for medical care, after being struck with the baton  
11 by Redding, he was forced to wait for an hour in a holding cell that measured 30" by 30." (Doc. 9 at 44)  
12 He asserts that he was forced to stand because he could not lower himself to a sitting position due to the  
13 ankle injury. Id. However, Plaintiff provides no facts to explain why this was the case. For example,  
14 there are no facts to explain why Plaintiff could not lean against the back or side of the cell, while  
15 standing on one foot and with his injured leg outstretched, bend at the knee and lower himself into a  
16 sitting position. Likewise, though he asserts that there was no penological reason for forcing him to  
17 remain in the small holding cell, this conclusion is belied by the remainder of his complaint. He had  
18 repeatedly threatened to kill other inmates and within minutes of being placed in the holding cell, had  
19 attacked and beaten two inmates. (Doc. 9 at 8) Plaintiff fails to allege facts to explain why this  
20 significant security concern does not justify maintaining him in a holding cell.

21 Conclusion

22 Claim 16 does not state a cognizable Eighth Amendment claim and it is **DISMISSED**.

23 *B. Claim 17- Against Hall, McBride, Herrera, Tucker and Lee*

24 Plaintiff alleges that he was not given medical attention for two days after he was struck by  
25 Redding. (Doc. 9 at 45) However, Plaintiff admits that within minutes of the event, he was seen by  
26 nurse Hall. Id. at 46. Plaintiff alleges that at that time, nurse Hall informed Herrera and McBride that  
27 Plaintiff should keep his ankle elevated and have x-rays taken. Id. Although he had a laceration on his  
28 leg, Plaintiff claims that it was not bandaged and he was not given supplies to bandage it. Id. Also,

1 Plaintiff alleges that he was forced to walk on the ankle because no assistive devices were provided and  
2 that the x-rays were not taken for two days. Id. Plaintiff alleges that because he was forced to walk on  
3 the ankle, the swelling became “excessive” and was the size of a “football” (Id. at 46, 47) although the  
4 medical report attached to the complaint states only that there was “**some** distal lateral swelling.” (Doc.  
5 9, Ex J, emphasis added)

### 6 *I. Claim against Hall*

7 Plaintiff claims that Hall knew of the seriousness of his condition but failed to treat him. (Doc.  
8 9 at 46-47) However, the facts alleged fail to demonstrate that the cut on Plaintiff’s leg was a serious  
9 medical condition. Jett, 439 F.3d at 1096; McGuckin, 974 at 1059-1060; Hunt v. Dental Dept, 865 F.2d  
10 at 200-201. Assuming that the ankle was a serious medical condition, Plaintiff has failed to allege any  
11 facts to support that Hall was deliberately indifferent to this condition.

12 He complains that Hall should have provided him a cane or crutches and taken x-rays or referred  
13 to other medical staff. (Doc. 9 at 46-47) However, Hall *did* refer Plaintiff for x-rays and he was  
14 examined by Dr. Benyamin early on May 5, 2006 and Dr. Ferro at 10:00 a.m. on that day. (Doc. 9, Ex  
15 J) From the time that Hall saw Plaintiff until the time that Dr. Benyamin saw him, this was a delay,  
16 according to Plaintiff of 52 hours. Id.; Id. at 47. On the other hand, Plaintiff fails to allege facts to  
17 support that Hall had the ability to ensure that his medical appointment occurred more quickly or to  
18 provide the medical equipment that Plaintiff desired. Thus, Plaintiff has failed to state a claim under the  
19 Eighth Amendment.

### 20 *II. Claim against McBride and Herrera*

21 Plaintiff alleges that McBride and Herrera knew that he may have suffered a broken ankle, that  
22 the ankle needed to be elevated and that he needed x-rays. However, there are no facts alleged that either  
23 defendant knew of any delay in treatment or in obtaining the x-rays or that he was not provided crutches  
24 or a method by which to elevate his ankle. Likewise, there are no facts to support an inference that either  
25 defendant was deliberately indifferent to any serious medical condition that Plaintiff may have had.  
26 Thus, the claim against these defendants must be **DISMISSED**.

### 27 *III. Claim against Lee and Tucker*

28 Plaintiff alleges that on May 3, 2006, Lee saw that Plaintiff’s ankle was “swollen up to about the

1 size of a football” and told Lee that he needed medical care. (Doc. 9 at 47) Although Plaintiff reminded  
2 Lee several times about his need for a medical care and asked other inmates to remind him also, no  
3 medical care was provided until the morning of May 5, 2006. Id.

4 Plaintiff alleges that Tucker also saw his swollen foot and told him that he would not be provided  
5 medical care in retaliation for his ongoing refusal to accept a cell mate. (Doc. 9 at 47) Plaintiff claims  
6 that Tucker said that this treatment was to “make an example” of Plaintiff. Id.

7 Plaintiff alleges that the delay in obtaining medical care caused him to suffer excessive swelling  
8 and greater pain over the following weeks that would have been avoided if medical care had been  
9 promptly provided. Upon the facts alleged, Plaintiff has stated a claim for deliberate indifference to his  
10 medical condition against Lee and Tucker.

#### 11 Conclusion

12 Plaintiff has stated a claim for deliberate indifference to his medical condition against defendants  
13 Lee and Tucker. As to all other defendants, Claim 17 is **DISMISSED**.

#### 14 C. *Claims 18, 19, 20, 21- Against Ferro, Benjamin, Dishman, Reeves, Coleman,* 15 *Roberts*

16 As noted above, on May 5, 2006, Plaintiff was seen by Doctors Ferro and Benjamin. (Doc. 9  
17 at 49) At that time, the doctors determined that Plaintiff had a “small” fracture and though swelling was  
18 noted, the doctors describe it as “some . . . swelling” rather the football-sized description that Plaintiff  
19 provides. (Doc. 9, Ex J) Dr. Ferro, a orthopedic specialist, oversaw Dr. Benjamin’s application of a  
20 “fiberglass cast.” Id. Dr. Ferro told Plaintiff that he should not bear weight on the ankle and Dr. Ferro  
21 discussed with Plaintiff that “If he has any questions or concerns in the interim he knows that he can  
22 always get ahold of me on A-yard and I will be happy to see him there.” Id. Dr. Ferro told Plaintiff that  
23 he would wear the cast for five to six weeks and that Plaintiff was to return to the clinic in five weeks  
24 for follow-up care and cast removal. (Doc. 9 at 54) Neither doctor ensured that Plaintiff received  
25 crutches or a cane and Plaintiff was not provided crutches until May 11, 2006. (Doc. 9 at 53)

26 On May 7 and May 8, 2006, Plaintiff complained to nurse Dishman that his cast was too tight  
27 and his toes had turned purple and were numb. Id. at 50. On May 9, 2006, Plaintiff was examined by  
28 Dr. Benjamin who determined that the cast was too tight and found that Plaintiff’s toes were “purplish

1 color.” Id. Plaintiff reported to Dr. Benyamin that he did not keep his foot elevated. (Doc. 9, Ex K)  
2 Later that day, Plaintiff was transported to an outside hospital and examined by Dr. Leveque who  
3 determined that the wrong type of cast had been placed on Plaintiff. Id. at 49. Dr. Leveque placed a  
4 plaster splint on Plaintiff that would allow for the swelling. Id. at 49-50. Plaintiff claims that Dr.  
5 Leveque recommended that Plaintiff follow-up with the ortho clinic at the prison that did not occur. Id.  
6 at 55.

7 On June 5, 2006, Plaintiff submitted a request to see the doctor about his cast removal. (Doc. 9  
8 at 54; Doc 9, Ex L) Roberts received the request on “6/8/06” and forwarded it to Dr. Ferro on “6/9/06.”  
9 Id. Repeatedly after this date, Plaintiff reminded Dishman that his cast needed to be removed. (Doc.  
10 9 at 55) Twice, Dishman told Plaintiff that she had informed nurse practitioner, Coleman of this need.  
11 Id. Plaintiff also sent a letter to Coleman reminding her of the need to remove the cast. The plaster  
12 splint was not removed until June 27, 2006. Id. at 54.

13 Plaintiff claims that having to wear the cast longer caused his recovery to be delayed due to the  
14 increased stiffness and swelling caused by the immobilization. (Doc. 9 at 55) He alleges also that the  
15 weight of the cast caused stress on his knee, due to the need for crutches, and caused him to suffer due  
16 to the itching caused by the cast. Id. Plaintiff claims that wearing the cast too long caused him long term  
17 pain to his heel bone. Id.

18 After his cast was removed, Plaintiff’s crutches were taken from him. Id. However, he  
19 continued to experience pain when walking. (Doc. 9 at 57) On June 28, 2006, Plaintiff requested  
20 physical therapy to address the pain he felt in his ankle. Id. The request was processed by Roberts on  
21 July 3, 2006 but Roberts did not schedule him for physical therapy. Id. On July 25, 2006, Dr. Benyamin  
22 examined Plaintiff and reviewed the x-ray report. (Doc. 9, Ex P) At the time, Plaintiff complained of  
23 pain and that “sometimes [he] can’t bear wt on that foot.” Id. The doctor noted that there was “no  
24 swelling,” that the “ankle was normal in shape and size,” there was “no focal nerve deficit” and that  
25 Plaintiff had a “normal gait.” Id. Dr. Benyamin ordered another orthopedic consultation and ordered  
26 Plaintiff to receive a cane. (Id.; Doc. 9, Ex. O) The prison’s medical committee reviewed Dr.  
27 Benyamin’s “cane chrono” and denied the request for the cane but granted Plaintiff crutches for one  
28 month. (Doc. 9, Ex Q) Plaintiff alleges that this document was “rigged” and that he did not receive

1 either a cane or crutches. Id.

2 On September 5, 2006, Coleman saw Plaintiff and ordered that he receive a pair of soft shoes  
3 due to the difficulty he was having with the normal “flip-flops” provided to Ad Seg inmates. (Doc. 9  
4 at 58; Doc. 9, Ex. R) The request was approved on September 7, 2006. (Doc. 9 at 58; Doc. 9, Ex. S)  
5 Plaintiff did not receive the shoes until a week after he left Ad Seg on September 17, 2006. Id. at 58.  
6 Plaintiff complains that the shoes were insufficient because they were not orthopedic shoes, were poorly  
7 constructed and did not fit properly. Id. He alleges that these shoes caused him additional pain but wore  
8 them nonetheless. Id.

9 ***I. Claims against Dishman***

10 Plaintiff alleges that Dishman delayed treatment for him for more than 48 hours after she learned  
11 that his toes were purple and numb and due to her failure to provide him with material to allow Plaintiff  
12 to elevate his foot or to ambulate. (Doc. 9 at 50-51, 52) These facts are sufficient to state a claim for a  
13 violation of the Eighth Amendment.

14 ***II. Claims against Coleman***

15 Plaintiff alleges that Coleman received the form completed by Dr. Levesque that indicated that  
16 he was to have a follow-up appointment at the prison’s ortho clinic. (Doc. 9 at 55) Plaintiff asserts that  
17 she was required to read these forms and schedule whatever followup was required. Id. However, the  
18 form that Plaintiff references, attached to the complaint as Exhibit J does not appear to be related to the  
19 contact with Dr. Levesque. (Doc. 9, Ex M) Though it does indicate that Plaintiff should “F/U” with  
20 “Ortho,” it is signed by a doctor whose last name begins with a “C” and first name begins with a “B.”  
21 Id. Also, the page is not dated but, even if it is the correct form, there are no facts to demonstrate that  
22 Coleman received the form or that she even knew he was to attend a follow up appointment. On the  
23 other hand, the fact that Coleman failed to schedule the follow-up appointment is not sufficient to state  
24 a claim unless there are facts that demonstrate that Coleman knew at the time that Plaintiff had a serious  
25 medical condition and she was, not merely negligent, but deliberately chose not to schedule a medical  
26 appointment for Plaintiff knowing the harm that could result. Thus, Plaintiff has not stated a claim  
27 against Coleman for failing to schedule a follow-up orthopedic examination.

28 In addition, Plaintiff alleges that Coleman was told by Dishman that he had a cast on his leg that

1 was overdue for removal. (Doc. 9 at 55) Also, Plaintiff alleges that he sent Coleman a letter reminding  
2 her that his cast needed to be removed. Id. However, Plaintiff fails to allege when Coleman was told  
3 this by Dishman and when he sent the letter. Without this information, the Court cannot determine  
4 whether there was any delay caused by Coleman. Also, there are no facts alleged that Coleman acted  
5 with deliberate indifference to his medical condition. At most, Plaintiff has alleged simple medical  
6 negligence. This is insufficient.

7 Finally, Plaintiff alleges that Coleman ordered that he receive “soft shoes.” (Doc. 9 at 57-58)  
8 The order was approved but he did not receive them for approximately three weeks. Id. There are no  
9 facts alleged that Coleman knew that Plaintiff had not received the shoes or, for that matter, that she  
10 played any role in the delay in their receipt. Thus, Plaintiff has not stated an Eighth Amendment claim  
11 against Coleman.

### 12 *III. Claims against Drs. Benyamin and Ferro*

13 As to Drs. Benyamin and Ferro, the facts alleged, at most, demonstrate that the treatment  
14 provided was negligent. The evidence attached to the complaint indicates that the extra swelling was  
15 caused, at least in part, by Plaintiff’s failure to keep his foot elevated. (Doc. 9, Ex. K) This implies that  
16 it was the unanticipated swelling which caused the cast to be deemed inappropriate. There are no facts  
17 alleged that would support an inference that either doctor provided the treatment they did for the purpose  
18 of causing Plaintiff harm. In fact, Dr. Ferro invited Plaintiff to contact him on the A-yard if he had any  
19 questions or concerns. (Doc. 9, Ex J) This is a far cry from a doctor who provides treatment with  
20 deliberate indifference to the resulting harm. Likewise, rather than forcing Plaintiff to remain in the too-  
21 tight cast, Dr. Benyamin had him transported to an outside facility for an orthopedic review and ordered  
22 that he receive a new cast. (Doc. 9 at 49-50) Later, he ordered Plaintiff to receive a cane. (Doc. 9, Ex  
23 Q) These facts do not demonstrate indifference to Plaintiff’s condition but an appropriate level of  
24 professional concern.

25 Plaintiff complains that Benyamin and Ferro violated the constitution by failing to ensure that  
26 he received materials to allow him to keep his leg elevated and by failing to provide him ambulatory  
27 devices. (Doc. 9 at 50, 52, 57) However, the attachments to the complaint make clear that neither doctor  
28 had the authority to provide these items. (Doc. 9, Exs. Q, S) Instead, whether an inmate receives these

1 items is determined by the prison's medical committee and then the items are provided by others at the  
2 prison. Id. To suggest that the constitution places liability on a doctor under these circumstances is  
3 unsupported.

4 Finally, Plaintiff alleges that Ferro failed to ensure that his cast was removed in a timely fashion.  
5 Plaintiff notes that when Ferro oversaw the application of the cast on May 5, 2006, he said that the cast  
6 would remain on for five to six weeks. (Doc. 9 at 54-55; Doc. 9, Ex J) After this, on May 9, 2006, this  
7 cast was removed and a plaster-splint was applied. (Doc. 9 at 54) There are no facts alleged that anyone  
8 ever told Plaintiff that the plaster splint would stay on for the same amount of time as the original cast  
9 or that the time spent in the regular cast would "count" toward the amount of time in the plaster-splint.  
10 Moreover, there are no facts alleged that Dr. Ferro was responsible for making appointments for follow-  
11 up contact and, in fact, Plaintiff alleges that this was the job of others on the medical staff. (Doc. 9 at  
12 55) Moreover, the pleading demonstrates that Dr. Ferro did not continue as Plaintiff's treating physician  
13 on the case. Instead, after the cast was placed on Plaintiff on May 5, 2006, Dr. Ferro had no further  
14 contact with Plaintiff and the care was continued by Dr. Benyamin.

15 Because medical malpractice does not violate the Eighth Amendment (McGuckin, 974 F.2d at  
16 1059(medical negligence does not violate the Eighth Amendment); Toguchi, 391 F.3d at 1057), the  
17 claims as to Drs. Benyamin and Ferro must be **DISMISSED**.

#### 18 *IV. Claims against Roberts*

19 Plaintiff alleges that on June 5, 2006, he submitted a request to have his cast removed and that  
20 it was received and processed by nurse Roberts. (Doc. 9 at 54-55) Roberts processed the request in a  
21 timely fashion. (Doc. 9, Ex L) However, Plaintiff did not receive medical treatment attention until June  
22 27, 2006. Id. at 54. Plaintiff offers no other facts to suggest that Roberts knew of the delay in Plaintiff  
23 receiving the medical treatment or that she had any control over the timeliness of the provision of  
24 medical treatment. There are no facts alleged that suggest that Roberts was deliberately indifferent to  
25 Plaintiff's medical condition.

26 Likewise, Plaintiff alleges that he requested physical therapy and that this request was processed  
27 by Roberts but she did not schedule him for therapy. (Doc. 9 at 57) Plaintiff fails to allege any facts to  
28 support that Roberts, a mere nurse, had the authority to order physical therapy for him. In light of the



1 fact that even doctors could only *recommend* medical assistive devices like canes, crutches and shoes  
2 (Doc. 9, Ex. Q, S) and it was a prison committee who actually decides whether the inmate gets these  
3 items, it is inconceivable and lacking in any factual support, that a nurse could make a decision to order  
4 physical therapy for an inmate. Thus, Plaintiff has failed to state a claim for a constitutional deprivation  
5 against Roberts.

#### 6 V. *Claims against Reeves*

7 Finally, Plaintiff has failed to state facts to support a claim against Reeves, who was a custodial  
8 staff member. Though Plaintiff alleges that Reeves was aware that Plaintiff's foot was swollen and that  
9 he had no materials with which to elevate his foot, there are no facts alleged that Reeves had any medical  
10 training or any reason to know that the foot needed to be elevated or that the failure to elevate the foot  
11 caused the swelling. (Doc. 9 at 51) Likewise, Plaintiff alleges that Reeves knew that his foot was  
12 swollen but failed to provide him crutches. *Id.* at 53.

13 However, Reeves was dealing with Plaintiff who, admittedly, was assaultive and violent as  
14 recently as one week before when he attacked and beat the two inmates. The suggestion that Reeves  
15 should have disregarded the institution's security policy and provide this equipment, without having any  
16 other information or instruction from medical staff, is unsupported. Thus, the claim against Reeves must  
17 be **DISMISSED**.

#### 18 Conclusion

19 As to Claim 18, Plaintiff has stated a cognizable claim for deliberate indifference to an alleged  
20 serious medical condition against defendant Dishman, based upon her delay in providing medical  
21 treatment for Plaintiff's swollen foot. As to all other defendants to Claim 18, Plaintiff has failed to state  
22 a cognizable claim and Claim 18 is **DISMISSED**. Also, as to Claims 19, 20 and 21, Plaintiff has failed  
23 to state a cognizable claims under the Eighth Amendment and these claims are **DISMISSED**.

#### 24 F. Leave to Amend

25 In sum, the Court finds that Plaintiff's allegations appear to state cognizable Eighth Amendment  
26 claims against Defendants Trimble, Williams, Brown, Reeves, Redding, Franco, Lee, Tucker and  
27 Dishman. Plaintiff's allegations as to any other defendant, however, fail to state cognizable claims.

28 Plaintiff may therefore proceed in one of two ways. First, Plaintiff may elect to serve the

1 complaint on Defendants Trimble, Williams, Brown, Reeves, Redding, Franco, Lee, Tucker and  
2 Dishman on the claims described above. Second, Plaintiff may delay service and file an amended  
3 complaint, attempting to cure the deficiencies identified by the Court in this order. See Noll v. Carlson,  
4 809 F.2d 1446, 1448-49 (9th Cir. 1987) (“A pro se litigant must be given leave to amend his or her  
5 complaint unless it is absolutely clear that the deficiencies of the complaint could not be cured by  
6 amendment.”) (internal quotations omitted).

7 If Plaintiff elects to file an amended complaint, he is cautioned that he may not change the nature  
8 of this suit by adding new and unrelated claims. See George v. Smith, 507 F.3d 605, 607 (7th Cir. 2007)  
9 (no “buckshot” complaints). Plaintiff is advised also that once he files an amended complaint, his  
10 original pleadings are superceded and no longer serve any function in the case. See Loux v. Rhay, 375  
11 F.2d 55, 57 (9th Cir. 1967). Thus, the amended complaint must be “complete in itself without reference  
12 to the prior or superceded pleading.” Local Rule 220. “All causes of action alleged in an original  
13 complaint which are not [re-]alleged in an amended complaint are waived.” King v. Atiyeh, 814 F.2d  
14 565, 567 (9th Cir. 1987) (citations omitted).

#### 15 **IV. CONCLUSION**

16 In accordance with the above, it is HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 17 1. Plaintiff’s motion under Rule 60 is **DENIED**.
- 18 2. As to Claims 2 through 7, Claim 11 and all acts alleged in Claims 8 through 10 that are  
19 alleged to have occurred before March 8, 2006, these Claims are **DISMISSED**;
- 20 3. As to Claim 1, Plaintiff has stated an Eighth Amendment violation against Defendants  
21 Trimble, Williams, Brown and Reeves related to the temperature of the cell only. As to all other  
22 defendants or claims, Claim 1 is **DISMISSED**.
- 23 4. As to Claim 8, the claim is **DISMISSED**.
- 24 5. As to Claim 9, the claim is **DISMISSED**.
- 25 6. As to Claim 10, the claim is **DISMISSED**.
- 26 7. As to Claims 12 and 13, Plaintiff has stated a cognizable claim under the Eighth  
27 Amendment’s prohibition against the use of excessive force against Defendant Redding.
- 28 8. As to Claim 14, Plaintiff has stated a cognizable claim under the Eighth Amendment for

1 excessive force against Defendants Redding and Franco related only to the allegation that  
2 they forced Plaintiff's arms up and forced him into a painful position despite that  
3 Plaintiff was cooperative and submissive at the time. As to all other defendants or  
4 claims, Claim 14 is **DISMISSED**.

5 9. As to Claims 12, 14 and 15 against Defendant McBride, these claims are **DISMISSED**.

6 10. As to Claims 12, 13 or 14 against Defendants Hickman and Yates, these claims are  
7 **DISMISSED**.

8 11. As to Claim 16, the claim is **DISMISSED**.

9 12. As to Claim 17, Plaintiff has stated a claim for deliberate indifference to his medical  
10 condition against defendants Lee and Tucker only. As to all other claims and defendants,  
11 Claim 17 is **DISMISSED**.

12 13. As to Claim 18, Plaintiff has stated a cognizable claim for deliberate indifference to an  
13 alleged serious medical condition against defendant Dishman only. As to all other claims  
14 and defendants, Claim 18 is **DISMISSED**.

15 14. As to Claims 19, 20 and 21, these claims are **DISMISSED**.

16 15. Within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this order, Plaintiff shall either:

17 a. Notify the Court in writing that he wishes to serve the complaint on Defendants  
18 Trimble, Williams, Brown, Reeves, Redding, Franco, Lee, Tucker and Dishman  
19 as outlined above; or

20 b. File an amended complaint attempting to cure the deficiencies identified by the  
21 Court in this order.

22 16. The Clerk of the Court is directed to send Plaintiff the form complaint for use in a civil  
23 rights action; and

24 17. Plaintiff is cautioned that failure to comply with this order will result in the dismissal of  
25 this case. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b).

26 IT IS SO ORDERED.

27 Dated: January 14, 2011

/s/ Jennifer L. Thurston  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE