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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

THOMAS KITCHEN,

1:10-cv-00663-GSA-PC

Plaintiff,

ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO DISMISS
PURSUANT TO RULE 41
(Doc. 12.)

v.

PATRICIA ROUCH, et al.,

ORDER DISMISSING ACTION IN ITS
ENTIRETY WITHOUT PREJUDICE

Defendants.

ORDER DIRECTING CLERK TO CLOSE FILE

_____ /

Plaintiff Thomas Kitchen (“plaintiff”) is a state prisoner proceeding pro se and in forma pauperis in this civil rights action filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Plaintiff filed the Complaint commencing this action on April 15, 2010. (Doc. 1.) On April 26, 2010, plaintiff consented to the jurisdiction of a Magistrate Judge pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(c), and no other parties have made an appearance. (Doc. 5.) Therefore, pursuant to Appendix A(k)(4) of the Local Rules of the Eastern District of California, the undersigned shall conduct any and all proceedings in the case until such time as reassignment to a District Judge is required. Local Rule Appendix A(k)(3).

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1 On March 15, 2012, plaintiff filed a motion to voluntarily dismiss this action without
2 prejudice. (Doc. 12.)

3
4 In Wilson v. City of San Jose, the Ninth Circuit explained:

5 Under Rule 41(a)(1), a plaintiff has an absolute right to voluntarily dismiss
6 his action prior to service by the defendant of an answer or a motion for summary
7 judgment. Concha v. London, 62 F.3d 1493, 1506 (9th Cir. 1995) (citing
8 Hamilton v. Shearson-Lehman American Express, 813 F.2d 1532, 1534 (9th Cir.
9 1987)). A plaintiff may dismiss his action so long as the plaintiff files a notice of
10 dismissal prior to the defendant's service of an answer or motion for summary
11 judgment. The dismissal is effective on filing and no court order is required. Id.
12 The plaintiff may dismiss some or all of the defendants, or some or all of his
claims, through a Rule 41(a)(1) notice. Id.; Pedrina v. Chun, 987 F.2d 608, 609-
10 10 (9th Cir. 1993). The filing of a notice of voluntary dismissal with the court
automatically terminates the action as to the defendants who are the subjects of
11 the notice. Concha, 62 F.2d at 1506. Unless otherwise stated, the dismissal is
ordinarily without prejudice to the plaintiff's right to commence another action for
12 the same cause against the same defendants. Id. (citing McKenzie v. Davenport-
Harris Funeral Home, 834 F.2d 930, 934-35 (9th Cir. 1987)). Such a dismissal
leaves the parties as though no action had been brought. Id.

13 Wilson v. City of San Jose, 111 F.3d 688, 692 (9th Cir. 1997). No defendant has filed an answer
14 or motion for summary judgment in this action. Therefore, plaintiff's motion shall be granted.

15 Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 16 1. Plaintiff's motion to voluntarily dismiss this action, filed on March 15, 2012, is
17 GRANTED;
- 18 2. This action is DISMISSED in its entirety without prejudice; and
- 19 3. The Clerk of the Court is DIRECTED to close the file in this case and adjust the
20 docket to reflect voluntary dismissal of this action pursuant to Rule 41(a).

21
22 IT IS SO ORDERED.

23 Dated: March 19, 2012

/s/ Gary S. Austin
24 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE