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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
9 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
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11 KEVIN E. FIELDS,

12 Plaintiff,

13 vs.

14 ROSENTHAL,

15 Defendant.  
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1:10-cv-01764-AWI-GSA-PC

ORDER FOR DEFENDANT ROSENTHAL  
TO RESPOND TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION  
TO DISMISS WITHIN TWENTY (20)  
DAYS  
(Doc. 75.)

17 Kevin E. Fields ("Plaintiff") is a prisoner proceeding pro se in this civil rights action  
18 pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Plaintiff initiated this action by civil complaint at the Kings  
19 County Superior Court on August 11, 2010 (Case #10-C0309). On September 23, 2010,  
20 defendant Richard Rosenthal ("Defendant") removed the case to federal court by filing a Notice  
21 of Removal of Action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(b). (Doc. 1.) This case now proceeds on  
22 the Second Amended Complaint filed by Plaintiff on August 22, 2012, against Defendant  
23 Rosenthal for retaliation, in violation of the First Amendment. (Doc. 17.)

24 On September 10, 2014, Plaintiff filed a motion to dismiss this action pursuant to Rule  
25 41(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. (Doc. 75.)

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

27 Under Rule 41(a)(1), a plaintiff has an absolute right to voluntarily  
28 dismiss his action prior to service by the defendant of an answer or a motion for  
summary judgment. Concha v. London, 62 F.3d 1493, 1506 (9th Cir. 1995)

(citing Hamilton v. Shearson-Lehman American Express, 813 F.2d 1532, 1534 (9th Cir. 1987)). A plaintiff may dismiss his action so long as the plaintiff files a notice of dismissal prior to the defendant's service of an answer or motion for summary judgment. The dismissal is effective on filing and no court order is required. Id. 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 (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 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 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.

Wilson v. City of San Jose, 111 F.3d 688, 692 (9th Cir. 1997). In this case, defendant Rosenthal filed a motion for summary judgment on January 7, 2014. (Doc. 54.) Therefore, before Plaintiff can dismiss this action, defendant Rosenthal must consent in writing to the dismissal. Defendant Rosenthal shall be required to respond in writing to Plaintiff's motion to dismiss.

Accordingly, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that within twenty (20) days of the date of service of this order, defendant Rosenthal shall respond in writing to Plaintiff's motion to dismiss, indicating whether he consents to the dismissal of this action, or whether he has any reason to oppose the dismissal.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: September 13, 2014

/s/ Gary S. Austin  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE