2 3 4 5 6 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 9 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 VANALBERT SIEGRIST. Case No.: 1:10-cv-01976-SAB (PC) 12 Plaintiff, ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WHY DEFENDANT J. J. JOHNSON SHOULD 13 v. NOT BE DISMISSED PURSUANT TO FEDERAL RULE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE 4(M) 14 J.J. JOHNSON, et al., [ECF No. 43] 15 Defendants. 16 Plaintiff Vanalbert Siegrist is appearing pro se and in forma pauperis in this civil rights action 17 pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. 18 This action is proceeding against Defendants J. J. Johnson, Stringer, and Dutra for deliberate 19 20 indifference to a serious medical need in violation of the Eighth Amendment. 21 The United States Marshal have not been able to locate and serve Defendant Johnson. Rule 4(m) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure provides: 22 23 [if] a defendant is not served within 120 days after the complaint is filed, the court—on motion or on its own after notice to the plaintiff—must dismiss the action without 24 prejudice against that defendant or order that service be made within a specified time. But if the plaintiff shows good cause for the failure, the court must extend the time for 25 service for an appropriate period. 26 Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(m). 27 ///

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1 2 order of the Court, shall serve the summons and the complaint. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(d); Fed. R. Civ. P. 3 4(c)(3). "[A]n incarcerated pro se plaintiff proceeding in forma pauperis is entitled to rely on the U.S. Marshal for service of the summons and complaint and [he] should not be penalized by having his 4 5 action dismissed for failure to effect service where the U.S. Marshal or the court clerk has failed to perform his duties." Walker v. Sumner, 14 F.3d 1415, 1422 (9th Cir. 1994) (internal quotations and 6 7 citation omitted), abrogated on other grounds by Sandin v. Connor, 515 U.S. 472 (1995). "So long as 8 the prisoner has furnished the information necessary to identify the defendant, the marshal's failure to effect service is automatically good cause...." <u>Id.</u> at 1422 (internal quotations and citation omitted). However, where a pro se plaintiff fails to provide the Marshal with accurate and sufficient information 10 to effect service of the summons and complaint, the Court's sua sponte dismissal of the unserved 11

defendants is appropriate. Id. at 1421-1422. Here, the Marshal forwarded the service packet to Pleasant Valley State Prison, in Coalinga, California, which was forwarded to the special investigator who was unable to locate Defendant J. J. Johnson. (ECF No. 43.) Plaintiff shall be provided with an opportunity to show cause why Defendant Johnson should not be dismissed. Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(m). If Plaintiff either fails to respond to this order or responds but fails to show cause, Defendant Johnson shall be dismissed from this action.

In cases involving a plaintiff proceeding in forma pauperis, the United States Marshal, upon

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Based on the foregoing,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 1. Within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this order, Plaintiff shall show cause why Defendant Johnson should not be dismissed from this action; and
- 2. The failure to respond to this order or the failure to show cause will result in the dismissal of Defendant Johnson from this action.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: March 16, 2015

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE