

1 Unknown Names Agent in case number 1:13-cv-00750-AWI-SAB, in which Plaintiff was forewarned
2 that monetary sanctions would be imposed for filing frivolous complaints.

3 The Court also issued a findings and recommendations, in case number 1:13-cv-00837-AWI-
4 SAB, recommending to dismiss the action with prejudice as frivolous. (Id., ECF No. 3.) The findings
5 and recommendations were adopted in full on August 21, 2013, and the action was dismissed.

6 Plaintiff has previously been informed on numerous occasions that he may be monetarily
7 sanctions for filing frivolous claims without basis in law or fact. See 1:13-cv-00750-AWI-SAB, ECF
8 No. 2 (“Plaintiff is further forewarned that filing a complaint based upon facts and law that have no
9 reasonable basis may result in further sanctions, including but not limited to an order to pay a penalty
10 to the Court.”), 1:13-cv-00837-AWI-SAB, ECF No. 2. Plaintiff failed to heed the Court’s warning
11 and filed this similar frivolous claim.

12 This Court has inherent power to sanction parties or their attorneys for improper conduct.
13 Chambers v. Nasco, Inc., 501 U.S. 32, 43-46 (1991); Roadway Express, Inc. v. Piper, 447 U.S. 752,
14 766 (1980); Fink v. Gomez, 239 F.3d 989, 991 (9th Cir. 2001). The imposition of sanctions under the
15 Court’s inherent authority is discretionary. Air Separation, Inc. v. Underwriters at Lloyd’s of London,
16 45 F.3d 288, 291 (9th Cir. 1995). A court’s inherent powers “are governed not by rule or statute but by
17 the control necessarily vested in courts to manage their own affairs so as to achieve the orderly and
18 expeditious disposition of cases.” Chambers, 501 U.S. at 43. Such inherent power “is not a broad
19 reservoir of power, ready at an imperial hand, but a limited source; and implied power squeezed from
20 the need to make the court function.” Id. at 42. “Because inherent powers are shielded from direct
21 democratic controls, they must be exercised with restraint and discretion.” Roadway Express, Inc.,
22 447 U.S. at 764.

23 The Court’s “inherent power ‘extends to a full range of litigation abuses.’” Fink, 239 F.3d at
24 992 (quoting Chambers, 501 U.S. at 46-47.) However, in order to sanction a litigant under the Court’s
25 inherent powers, the Court must make a specific finding of “bad faith or conduct tantamount to bad
26 faith.” Fink, 239 F.3d at 994. Although mere recklessness is insufficient to support sanctions under
27 the Court’s inherent powers, “recklessness when combined with an additional factor such as
28 frivolousness, harassment, or an improper purpose” is sufficient. Id. at 993-994. A litigant may be

1 sanctioned for acting for an improper purpose, even if the act was “a truthful statement or nonfrivolous
2 argument or objection.” Id. at 992.

3 Here, Plaintiff’s constant bad faith filings requires members of the clerk’s office who are
4 limited in staffing with increased responsibilities due to budget constraints, to process plaintiff’s
5 numerous frivolous filings. Further, Plaintiff’s claim delays this Court from addressing matters
6 brought in federal court in good faith. The entire Court’s time is better spent addressing matters
7 brought in good faith. See Snyder v. I.R.S., 596 F.Supp. 240, 252 (N. D. Ind. 1984) (“[T]he doors of
8 this courthouse are open to good faith litigation, but abuse of the judicial process . . . will not be
9 tolerated.”). Similarly, Plaintiff’s constant frivolously filings will not be tolerated.

10 Accordingly, the Court finds that Plaintiff filed this complaint in bad faith without any basis in
11 law or fact. Plaintiff received notice in this Court’s previous findings and recommendations that the
12 filing of such complaints may result in monetary sanctions.

13 Based on the foregoing,

14 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 15 1. Plaintiff is assessed monetary sanctions in the amount of \$250.00 for filing a frivolous
16 claim in bad faith;
- 17 2. The sanction amount shall be paid to the Court within forty-five (45) days from the date
18 of service of this order; and
- 19 3. The failure to pay the sanction in accordance with this order may result in the
20 imposition of additional sanctions.

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23 IT IS SO ORDERED.

24 Dated: December 6, 2013


25 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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