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6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
7 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
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9 MARK S. SOKOLSKY,

10 Plaintiff,

11 vs.

12 STATE OF CALIFORNIA, et al.,

13 Defendants.  
14  
15  
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1:13-cv-02044-LJO-GSA-PC

ORDER STRIKING OBJECTIONS FOR  
LACK OF APPROPRIATE SIGNATURE  
(ECF No. 87.)

ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF TWENTY  
DAYS IN WHICH TO FILE NEW  
OBJECTIONS BEARING HIS  
HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURE  
(ECF No. 84.)

TWENTY-DAY DEADLINE

17 Mark S. Sokolsky (“Plaintiff”) is a civil detainee proceeding pro se and in forma  
18 pauperis with this civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

19 On October 6, 2017, Plaintiff filed objections to the Magistrate Judge’s findings and  
20 recommendations that were issued on September 21, 2017. (ECF No. 87.) In the objections,  
21 Plaintiff indicates that he is associated with “Attorney Kilgore,” who expects to represent  
22 Plaintiff after gaining admission to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of  
23 California.

24 Plaintiff is advised that to substitute an attorney in place of himself as attorney of  
25 record, Plaintiff must submit a substitution of attorneys document to the court setting forth the  
26 full name and address of the new attorney, and signed by Plaintiff (as the withdrawing attorney  
27 and client) and the new attorney. Local Rule 182(g). “All substitutions of attorneys shall  
28 require the approval of the Court, and the words ‘**IT IS SO ORDERED**’ with spaces

1 designated for the date and signature of the Judge affixed at the end of each substitution of  
2 attorneys.” Id.

3 Plaintiff has not handwritten his signature on the objections. Instead, Plaintiff’s  
4 signature on the objections is typewritten as “/s/ Mark S. Sokolsky.” (Id. at 1, 4.) This  
5 signature does not comply with Local Rules. As a pro se litigant, Plaintiff is required to  
6 handwrite his signature on all documents submitted to the court. Pursuant to Local Rule  
7 131(b):

8 All pleadings and non-evidentiary documents shall be signed by the individual  
9 attorney for the party presenting them, or by the party involved if that party is  
10 appearing in propria persona. Affidavits and certifications shall be signed by the  
11 person executing the document. The name of the person signing the document  
12 shall be typed or printed underneath the signature. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 11.

13 Local Rule 31(c) allows attorneys to file documents electronically using a signature in the  
14 format shown by this example: “/s/ John M. Barrister, Esquire.” However, Plaintiff, who is  
15 representing himself, is not permitted to submit only a typewritten signature. Accordingly,  
16 Plaintiff’s objections, filed on October 6, 2017, shall be stricken from the record for lack of  
17 appropriate signature. Plaintiff shall be granted twenty days in which to file new objections,  
18 bearing his handwritten signature.

19 Based on the foregoing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 20 1. Plaintiff’s objections to the Magistrate Judge’s findings and recommendations,  
21 filed on October 6, 2017, are STRICKEN from the record for lack of appropriate  
22 signature; and
- 23 2. Plaintiff may file new objections, bearing his handwritten signature, within  
24 twenty days of the date of service of this order.

25 IT IS SO ORDERED.

26 Dated: October 12, 2017

27 /s/ Gary S. Austin  
28 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE