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4 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
5 **EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**  
6

7 **F.L. ODINSON CROWELL,**  
8 **Plaintiff**

9 **v.**

10  
11 **E. BEELER,**  
12 **Defendant**

**CASE NO. 1:14-CV-01724 AWI BAM**

**ORDER ON DEFENDANT'S MOTION  
FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

(Doc. No. 38)

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14  
15 This is a failure to provide reasonable accommodation case brought by Plaintiff F.L.  
16 Odinson Crowell ("Crowell"), a prisoner at the California Substance Abuse and Treatment Facility  
17 in Corcoran, against Defendant E. Beeler ("Beeler"), a correctional sergeant. Crowell alleges that  
18 he was denied reasonable accommodation for paruresis (aka bashful bladder syndrome), in  
19 violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") and the Rehabilitation Act. Beeler now  
20 moves for summary judgment on Crowell's claim against her. For the reasons that follow, the  
21 motion will be granted.

22  
23 **LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

24 Summary judgment is proper when it is demonstrated that there exists no genuine issue as  
25 to any material fact, and that the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. Fed. R.  
26 Civ. P. 56; Adickes v. S.H. Kress & Co., 398 U.S. 144, 157 (1970); Fortyune v. American Multi-  
27 Cinema, Inc., 364 F.3d 1075, 1080 (9th Cir. 2004). The party seeking summary judgment bears  
28 the initial burden of informing the court of the basis for its motion and of identifying the portions

1 of the declarations (if any), pleadings, and discovery that demonstrate an absence of a genuine  
2 issue of material fact. Celotex Corp. v. Catrett, 477 U.S. 317, 323, 106 S. Ct. 2548, 91 L. Ed. 2d  
3 265 (1986); Soremekun v. Thrifty Payless, Inc., 509 F.3d 978, 984 (9th Cir. 2007). A fact is  
4 “material” if it might affect the outcome of the suit under the governing law. See Anderson v.  
5 Liberty Lobby, Inc., 477 U.S. 242, 248-49 (1986); United States v. Kapp, 564 F.3d 1103, 1114  
6 (9th Cir. 2009). A dispute is “genuine” as to a material fact if there is sufficient evidence for a  
7 reasonable jury to return a verdict for the non-moving party. Anderson, 477 U.S. at 248;  
8 Freecycle Sunnyvale v. Freecycle Network, 626 F.3d 509, 514 (9th Cir. 2010).

9         Where the moving party will have the burden of proof on an issue at trial, the movant must  
10 affirmatively demonstrate that no reasonable trier of fact could find other than for the movant.  
11 Soremekun, 509 F.3d at 984. Where the non-moving party will have the burden of proof on an  
12 issue at trial, the movant may prevail by presenting evidence that negates an essential element of  
13 the non-moving party’s claim or by merely pointing out that there is an absence of evidence to  
14 support an essential element of the non-moving party’s claim. See James River Ins. Co. v. Herbert  
15 Schenk, P.C., 523 F.3d 915, 923 (9th Cir. 2008); Soremekun, 509 F.3d at 984. If a moving party  
16 fails to carry its burden of production, then “the non-moving party has no obligation to produce  
17 anything, even if the non-moving party would have the ultimate burden of persuasion.” Nissan  
18 Fire & Marine Ins. Co. v. Fritz Cos., 210 F.3d 1099, 1105-06 (9th Cir. 2000). If the moving party  
19 meets its initial burden, the burden then shifts to the opposing party to establish that a genuine  
20 issue as to any material fact actually exists. See Matsushita Elec. Indus. Co. v. Zenith Radio  
21 Corp., 475 U.S. 574, 586 (1986); Nissan Fire, 210 F.3d at 1103. The opposing party cannot “‘rest  
22 upon the mere allegations or denials of [its] pleading’ but must instead produce evidence that ‘sets  
23 forth specific facts showing that there is a genuine issue for trial.’” Estate of Tucker v. Interscope  
24 Records, 515 F.3d 1019, 1030 (9th Cir. 2008).

25         The opposing party’s evidence is to be believed, and all justifiable inferences that may be  
26 drawn from the facts placed before the court must be drawn in favor of the opposing party. See  
27 Anderson, 477 U.S. at 255; Matsushita, 475 U.S. at 587; Narayan v. EGL, Inc., 616 F.3d 895, 899  
28 (9th Cir. 2010). While a “justifiable inference” need not be the most likely or the most persuasive

1 inference, a "justifiable inference" must still be rational or reasonable. See Narayan, 616 F.3d at  
2 899. Summary judgment may not be granted "where divergent ultimate inferences may  
3 reasonably be drawn from the undisputed facts." Fresno Motors, LLC v. Mercedes Benz USA,  
4 LLC, 771 F.3d 1119, 1125 (9th Cir. 2015); see also Holly D. v. Cal. Inst. of Tech., 339 F.3d 1158,  
5 1175 (9th Cir. 2003). Inferences are not drawn out of the air, and it is the opposing party's  
6 obligation to produce a factual predicate from which the inference may be drawn. See Fitzgerald  
7 v. El Dorado Cnty., 94 F.Supp.3d 1155, 1163 (E.D. Cal. 2015); Sanders v. City of Fresno, 551  
8 F.Supp.2d 1149, 1163 (E.D. Cal. 2008). "A genuine issue of material fact does not spring into  
9 being simply because a litigant claims that one exists or promises to produce admissible evidence  
10 at trial." Del Carmen Guadalupe v. Agosto, 299 F.3d 15, 23 (1st Cir. 2002); see Bryant v.  
11 Adventist Health System/West, 289 F.3d 1162, 1167 (9th Cir. 2002). The parties have the  
12 obligation to particularly identify material facts, and the court is not required to scour the record in  
13 search of a genuine disputed material fact. Simmons v. Navajo Cnty., 609 F.3d 1011, 1017 (9th  
14 Cir. 2010). Further, a "motion for summary judgment may not be defeated . . . by evidence that is  
15 'merely colorable' or 'is not significantly probative.'" Anderson, 477 U.S. at 249-50; Hardage v.  
16 CBS Broad. Inc., 427 F.3d 1177, 1183 (9th Cir. 2006). If the nonmoving party fails to produce  
17 evidence sufficient to create a genuine issue of material fact, the moving party is entitled to  
18 summary judgment. Nissan Fire, 210 F.3d at 1103.

### 19 20 **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**<sup>1</sup>

21 Crowell is an inmate of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation  
22 ("CDCR") and at all times relevant to this litigation, was housed at the California Substance

23  
24 <sup>1</sup> "DSUF" refers to "Defendant's Statement of Undisputed Facts," and PRDSUF refers to "Plaintiff's Responses to  
25 Defendant's Statement of Undisputed Facts." Crowell's denials do not include citations to supporting evidence, in  
26 violation of Local Rule 260(b), which states in relevant part: "Any party opposing a motion for summary judgment or  
27 summary adjudication shall reproduce the itemized facts in the Statement of Undisputed Facts and admit those facts  
28 that are undisputed and deny those that are disputed, including with each denial a citation to the particular portions of  
any pleading, affidavit, deposition, interrogatory answer, admission, or other document relied upon in support of that  
denial." Further, the arguments of counsel alone are insufficient to raise a dispute of fact. See British Airways Bd. v.  
Boeing Co., 585 F.2d 946, 952 (9th Cir. 1978) ("The only statements we can find in the record that the crash was  
caused by a defective fin attachment fitting were made by counsel for BOAC. But legal memoranda and oral argument  
are not evidence, and they cannot by themselves create a factual dispute sufficient to defeat a summary judgment  
motion where no dispute otherwise exists.")

1 Abuse and Treatment Facility (“CSATF”) in Corcoran, California. DSUF 1. Crowell states that  
2 he has suffered from paruresis his entire life. Crowell Dec. at 2. Crowell further states that he is  
3 not able to urinate in front of others and needs to be in a private area away from others in order to  
4 urinate.<sup>2</sup> Id. Crowell has never been physically evaluated or diagnosed with paruresis by any  
5 medically trained and licensed professional. DSUF 5. Crowell admits this fact, but claims he has  
6 been denied any type of evaluation by either Dr. Kokor, his primary care provider in prison, or Mr.  
7 Horowitz, a clinical social worker at the prison. PRDSUF 5; Crowell Dec. at 19.

8 Crowell has been diagnosed with, and currently receives medical treatment for, an enlarged  
9 prostate. DSUF 6. Crowell’s enlarged prostate has been successfully managed for a lengthy  
10 period of time by the prescription drug Terazosin. DSUF 7. Crowell also maintains that he has  
11 managed his enlarged prostate by his own diligent efforts to take care of his health and by taking  
12 additional supplements. PRDSUF 7. Crowell has spent hundreds if not thousands of dollars to  
13 treat his enlarged prostate. Crowell Dec. at 22. Crowell has been taking Saw Palmetto for years  
14 to alleviate the symptoms of his enlarged prostate. Id. Crowell states that he has “been prescribed  
15 Terazosin since May 8, 2009, for my enlarged prostrate which inhibits free urine flow and bladder  
16 function.” Crowell Dec. at 3.

17 There is no record, document, or notation contained within Crowell’s CDCR medical  
18 records supporting the contention that Crowell requires a medical accommodation in the form of  
19 an alternative drug testing method in lieu of the standard urinalysis testing method. DSUF 9.  
20 Crowell admits this fact, but claims this is only because his request for an accommodation has  
21 been ignored. PRDSUF 9.

22 On January 18, 2014, Beeler was informed by Officer H. Perez that Crowell had verbally  
23 requested an accommodation for the standard urine sample collection procedure due to an alleged  
24 medical disability. DSUF 10. Crowell informed custody staff that he had an enlarged prostate  
25 and paruresis. Crowell Dec. at 4. The specific accommodation Crowell asked for was to provide  
26 his sample outside the presence of others. Id. Beeler directed that Crowell provide a urine sample  
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28 <sup>2</sup> The Court notes that Crowell admitted that he was in fact able to provide a urine sample in a non-private area (with no accommodation) for the purpose of drug testing, although he states it caused him excruciating pain. PRDSUF 18.

1 in the standard manner provided by the CDCR Department Operations Manual. DSUF 17. Beeler  
2 told Crowell that: “If you don’t do this it’s the same as a dirty test. You will be written up, placed  
3 on C status when you’re found guilty and you will lose your privileges.” Crowell Dec. at 8.  
4 Thereafter, Crowell provided his urine sample within approximately seventy minutes, which was  
5 within the three-hour time limit allotted for a sample’s timely submission. DSUF 18. Crowell  
6 maintains that while he was able to provide the sample, he was able to do so only after undergoing  
7 excruciating pain, and that the pain lasted for several weeks after January 18, 2014. PRDSUF 18;  
8 Crowell Dec. at 11.

9 As a member of CSATF custody staff, Beeler is not permitted to review an inmate’s  
10 CDCR medical records. DSUF 14. Aside from basic First Responder training, Beeler possesses  
11 no medical training and is unable to diagnose any medical disability that an inmate may suffer  
12 from, or prescribe medical accommodations that an inmate may require. DSUF 15.

13 Beeler maintains that in response to Crowell’s request, she reviewed the documents in her  
14 possession provided by CSATF medical personnel, which memorialize which CSATF inmates  
15 require an accommodation to perform their various life tasks. DUSF 11. Beeler further maintains  
16 that she reviewed whether Crowell had been provided or prescribed any medical accommodation  
17 by CSATF medical personnel in regards to his providing a drug-testing sample, and that the  
18 documents she reviewed on January 18, 2014 indicated that, as of that date, Crowell had not been  
19 prescribed or given any such accommodation which would permit her to allow Crowell to either  
20 (1) provide a urine sample which deviated from the requirement that the collecting staff member  
21 directly observe the flow of urine from Crowell’s body into the collection bottle; or (2) provide a  
22 hair or blood sample instead of a urine sample. DSUF 12-13. Crowell maintains that Beeler did  
23 not review any documents prior to denying his request for a reasonable accommodation, asserting  
24 that while he was talking to Beeler, she did not leave to call medical, nor did he observe her  
25 reviewing any documents about his condition.<sup>3</sup> Crowell Dec. at 12; PRDSUF 12-13.

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27 <sup>3</sup> Even assuming that Beeler did not review any documents before denying Crowell’s request for an accommodation, it  
28 is undisputed that there is no record, document, or notation contained within Crowell’s CDCR medical records  
supporting the contention that Crowell requires a medical accommodation in the form of an alternative drug testing  
method in lieu of the standard urinalysis testing method. DSUF 9. Further, whether Beeler reviewed any

1 After the urine test on January 18, 2014, Crowell attempted to discuss paruresis with Dr.  
2 Kokor. Crowell Dec. at 15. Dr. Kokor is a physician and surgeon licensed to practice medicine in  
3 California, and employed by the CDCR. Kokor Dec. at 1. Dr. Kokor has served as Crowell’s  
4 primary care provider from Crowell’s arrival at CSATF on June 24, 2013 through the present. Id.  
5 Dr. Kokor has reviewed Crowell’s medical records from January 2008 through March 24, 2016.  
6 Id. at 2. Based on this review, Dr. Kokor confirms that Crowell’s medical records do not indicate  
7 any diagnosis of paruresis. Id. at 5. Further, based on Dr. Kokor’s review of Crowell’s medical  
8 records, Dr. Kokor’s interactions with and treatment of Crowell as his primary care provider, and  
9 Dr. Kokor’s medical training and experience, it is Dr. Kokor’s medical opinion that Crowell:  
10 “does not suffer from and has not been diagnosed by any CDCR medical professional as suffering  
11 from paruresis . . . .” Id. at 6. Further, Dr. Kokor stated that it is his medical opinion that:  
12 “Crowell’s enlarged prostate does not hinder, inhibit, or in any [way] prevent him from providing  
13 a urine sample, upon request, within the three hour period provided by Section 52010.20 of the  
14 CDCR Department Operations Manual, and he did not and does not require a medical  
15 accommodation in the form of an alternative drug-testing method in lieu of the standard urinalysis  
16 testing method . . . .” Id. at 6.

17 Crowell appealed to the Reasonable Accommodation Panel (“Panel”) within CSATF,  
18 requesting to be allowed to provide a blood test instead of a urine test. Crowell Dec., Ex. A. The  
19 matter was reviewed by the Panel on December 10, 2014. The Panel consists of the ADA  
20 Coordinator, the Appeals Coordinator, the Health Care Appeals Coordinator, and the Chief  
21 Medical Officer (clinician). Id. “The [Panel] determined that [Crowell’s] request for an  
22 accommodation to provide a blood test instead of a urine test for random drug testing was not  
23 medically necessary. Pursuant to Dr. Enenmoh, Chief Physician and Surgeon, [Crowell’s] current  
24 medical condition does not prevent him from being able to produce urine for random drug  
25 testing.” Id.

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28 documentation is irrelevant to the Court’s analysis of whether Crowell has offered sufficient evidence of a disability  
under the ADA or the Rehabilitation Act.

1 Crowell then submitted a second-level appeal to CSATF, but because Crowell “provided  
2 no information or evidence at the Second Level of Review to modify the findings of the [Panel],”  
3 the appeal was denied. Id. Crowell finally submitted a third-level appeal to the Director of  
4 CSATF. Id. The Appeals Examiner reviewed the Panel’s findings and noted that Crowell  
5 “provided no information or evidence, which would warrant a modification to the institution’s  
6 decision.” Id. Crowell’s third-level appeal was denied on April 27, 2015. Id.

7 On November 3, 2014, Crowell filed a complaint against Beeler in both her individual and  
8 official capacities, alleging one cause of action for failure to provide reasonable accommodation  
9 under both the ADA and the Rehabilitation Act. Crowell seeks injunctive relief in the form of a  
10 reasonable accommodation (preferably in the form of a blood test for drug testing), costs of suit,  
11 and reasonable attorneys’ fees and costs.

### 12 **DEFENDANT’S MOTION**

#### 13 Defendant’s Argument<sup>4</sup>

14 Beeler argues, *inter alia*, that Crowell’s ADA failure to accommodate claim fails because  
15 he is not disabled. Crowell has not been diagnosed with paruresis, nor is there any evidence from  
16 a medical professional that Crowell requires any accommodation as an alternative to the standard  
17 urinalysis drug testing method. While Crowell has been diagnosed with an enlarged prostate, this  
18 condition does not prohibit Crowell from providing a urine sample upon request and within a  
19 three-hour time period. Beeler argues that Crowell admits that he never sought any medical  
20 treatment for paruresis until after January 18, 2014, which is the date upon which his claim against  
21 Beeler is founded. Additionally, Beeler argues that Crowell’s claim for injunctive relief against  
22 her in her individual capacity is not legally viable, because the ADA bars such relief.

#### 23 Plaintiff’s Opposition

24 Crowell argues, *inter alia*, that he is disabled because he has suffered from a life-long  
25 disability of paruresis. Crowell claims that the California Department of Corrections gave him an  
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<sup>4</sup> Beeler makes other arguments in support of summary judgment. However, resolution of Beeler’s motion, as addressed by the Court below, renders it unnecessary to address Beeler’s other arguments.

1 accommodation for his paruresis in 2009 and he also received accommodations from various  
2 parole agents in 1990, 1992, 1994, and 1995.<sup>5</sup> Crowell asserts that the reason he never sought  
3 documentation for his paruresis prior to January 18, 2014 is because the issue had never arisen  
4 prior to this date. Crowell asserts that he could be reasonably accommodated during the drug  
5 testing process through the use of blood testing, hair testing, or being placed in a dry cell to be  
6 allowed to urinate in private.<sup>6</sup>

7 Legal Standard

8 I. Americans With Disabilities Act and Rehabilitation Act of 1973

9 Title II of the ADA provides that “no qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason  
10 of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services,  
11 programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subjected to discrimination by any such entity.” 42  
12 U.S.C. § 12132. To state a claim under Title II of the ADA, the plaintiff must allege:

13 (1) he is an individual with a disability; (2) he is otherwise qualified to participate in or  
14 receive the benefit of some public entity’s services, programs, or activities; (3) he was  
15 either excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of the public entity’s services,  
16 programs, or activities, or was otherwise discriminated against by the public entity; and  
17 (4) such exclusion, denial of benefits, or discrimination was by reason of [his] disability.

18 Simmons v. Navajo Cty., Ariz., 609 F.3d 1011, 1021 (9th Cir. 2010) (citation omitted).

19 Similarly, to establish a violation of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, a plaintiff must  
20 show that (1) he or she is an individual with a disability; (2) he or she is otherwise qualified for the  
21 benefit or services sought; (3) he or she was denied the benefit or services solely by reason of her  
22 handicap; and (4) the program providing the benefit or services receives federal financial  
23 assistance. See Weinreich v. Los Angeles County Metro. Transp. Auth., 114 F.3d 976, 978 (9th

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24 <sup>5</sup> While Crowell claims that accommodations were made for his paruresis, he does not state what the accommodations  
25 were, and he does not provide any documentation of such accommodations. These claims are not relevant to the  
26 Court’s conclusion below that Crowell is not disabled on the basis of paruresis.

27 <sup>6</sup> The Court notes that Crowell argues that Dr. Kokor discriminated against him. Crowell’s allegation of  
28 discrimination against Dr. Kokor is improper here. Crowell already sought to amend his complaint to add Dr. Kokor,  
and the Court denied his request. See Crowell v. Beeler, 2015 WL 7353889, at \*6 (E.D. Cal. Nov. 19, 2015).  
Specifically, Crowell sought to amend his complaint to add allegations that he spoke with Dr. Kokor about his  
medical condition and issues with the mandatory urinalysis testing, but Dr. Kokor refused to discuss the situation and  
dismissed it. See id. Crowell cannot now raise these claims against Dr. Kokor in an opposition to Beeler’s motion for  
summary judgment on his operative complaint in this case. Cf. id. Therefore, the Court will not address the  
discrimination arguments against Dr. Kokor.

1 Cir. 1997). “Title II of the ADA was expressly modeled after § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.”  
2 Duvall v. Cty. of Kitsap, 260 F.3d 1124, 1135 (9th Cir. 2001); see also Zukle v. Regents of Univ.  
3 of Cal., 166 F.3d 1041, 1045 n.11 (9th Cir. 1999) (“There is no significant difference in analysis  
4 of the rights and obligations created by the ADA and the Rehabilitation Act.”).

5 The ADA defines a disability as “a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits  
6 one or more major life activities of such individual; a record of such an impairment; or being  
7 regarded as having such an impairment . . . .” 42 U.S.C. § 12102(1)(A)-(C). Because the alleged  
8 failure to accommodate occurred after the effective date of the ADA Amendments Act of 2008  
9 (ADAAA), that statute applies to this case. The ADAAA expanded the scope of the term  
10 “disability” in the ADA. See Rohr v. Salt River Project Agric. Improvement & Power Dist., 555  
11 F.3d 850, 861 (9th Cir. 2009).<sup>7</sup>

12 In order to state a claim under the ADA, Plaintiff bears the burden of proving that he or she  
13 is “disabled.” Bates v. United Parcel Serv., 511 F.3d 974, 988 (9th Cir. 2007) (quoting Nunes v.  
14 Wal-Mart Stores, 164 F.3d 1243, 1246 (9th Cir. 1999)). Not every physical or mental impairment  
15 or medical condition qualifies as a disability for purposes of the ADA. The impairment or  
16 impairments in question must also “substantially limit[ ] one or more major life activities.” 42  
17 U.S.C. § 12102(1)(A). “Major life activities” include, but are not limited to: “caring for oneself,  
18 performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending,  
19 speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, and working.” 42  
20 U.S.C. § 12102(2)(A). Major life activities also include the operation of major bodily functions  
21 such as: “functions of the immune system, normal cell growth, digestive, bowel, bladder,  
22 neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, endocrine, and reproductive functions.” 42 U.S.C. §  
23 12102(2)(B).

24 At the summary judgment stage, a plaintiff is not required to present comparative or  
25 medical evidence to demonstrate a triable issue of material fact regarding the impairment of a  
26 major life activity, if the plaintiff provides other adequate evidence. Rohr, 555 F.3d at 858-59;  
27 Gribben v. United Parcel Serv., Inc., 528 F.3d 1166, 1170 (9th Cir. 2008); Head v. Glacier Nw.

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<sup>7</sup> Abrogated on other grounds in Univ. of Texas Sw. Med. Ctr. v. Nassar, 133 S. Ct. 2517 (2013).

1 Inc., 413 F.3d 1053, 1058 (9th Cir. 2005). A plaintiff’s declaration may suffice if it is not “merely  
2 self-serving” and contains “sufficient detail to convey the existence of an impairment.” Head, 413  
3 F.3d at 1059. Such testimony, however, must meet the generally required degree of personal  
4 knowledge and factual detail needed to withstand summary judgment. See Hexcel Corp. v. Ineos  
5 Polymers, Inc., 681 F.3d 1055, 1063 (9th Cir. 2012.) “[C]onclusory declarations are insufficient  
6 to raise a question of material fact.” Head, 413 F.3d at 1059.

7 Although 42 U.S.C. § 12132 does not expressly provide for reasonable accommodations,  
8 the implementing regulations provide that “[a] public entity shall make reasonable modifications  
9 in policies, practices, or procedures when the modifications are necessary to avoid discrimination  
10 on the basis of disability, unless the public entity can demonstrate that making the modifications  
11 would fundamentally alter the nature of the service, program, or activity.” 28 C.F.R. §  
12 35.130(b)(7)(i). The duty to provide “reasonable accommodations” or “reasonable modifications”  
13 for disabled people under Title II of the ADA arises only when a policy, practice or procedure  
14 discriminates on the basis of disability. Weinreich, 114 F.3d at 979.

15 1. Individual Capacity

16 Beeler is correct that she may not be held liable in her individual capacity under either the  
17 ADA or the Rehabilitation Act. See Stewart v. California Dep’t of Educ., 493 Fed. App’x 889,  
18 891 (9th Cir. 2012) (“The district court properly dismissed the ADA and Rehabilitation Act claims  
19 against the individual defendants in their individual capacities . . . .”); Garcia v. S.U.N.Y. Health  
20 Sciences Center, 280 F.3d 98 (2d Cir. 2001) (“[N]either Title II of the ADA nor § 504 of the  
21 Rehabilitation Act provides for individual capacity suits against state officials.”); Haney v. Htay,  
22 2017 WL 698318, at \*6 (E.D. Cal. Feb. 21, 2017) (“Individual capacity suits against prison  
23 employees in their personal capacities are also precluded under the ADA.”) Therefore, summary  
24 judgment on Crowell’s claims against Beeler in her individual capacity will be granted.

25 2. Determination of “Disability”

26 Crowell has raised two possible impairments, paruresis and an enlarged prostate. The  
27 Court will examine each claimed condition separately.  
28

1 a. Paruresis

2 Crowell claims that he has “suffered from Paruresis . . . [his] entire life.” Crowell Dec. at  
3 2. It is undisputed that Crowell has never been diagnosed by any medically trained and licensed  
4 professional with paruresis, nor are there any medical records before this Court indicating that  
5 Crowell suffers from paruresis. PRDSUF 5. Without citing to any cases, Crowell argues in his  
6 opposition that his self-diagnosed paruresis constitutes a disability. Crowell’s Opp. at 3-4.  
7 Crowell’s only support for this assertion is his own declaration. See Crowell Dec. at 2.

8 However, Crowell’s self-diagnosis is in direct contradiction to the medical evidence from  
9 Dr. Kokor, Crowell’s primary care provider.<sup>8</sup> Kokor Dec. at 1. Dr. Kokor has reviewed  
10 Crowell’s medical records from January 2008 through March 24, 2016. Kokor Dec. at 2. Based  
11 on this review, Dr. Kokor confirms that Crowell’s medical records do not indicate any diagnosis  
12 of paruresis. Kokor Dec. at 5. Further, it is Dr. Kokor’s medical opinion that Crowell: “does not  
13 suffer from and has not been diagnosed by any CDCR medical professional as suffering from  
14 paruresis . . . .” Kokor Dec. at 6. Dr. Kokor’s opinion is confirmed by the review of the Panel,  
15 including Dr. Enenmoh, Chief Physician and Surgeon, who stated that “[Crowell’s] current  
16 medical condition does not prevent him from being able to produce urine for random drug  
17 testing.” Crowell Dec., Ex. A.

18 It is possible that Crowell seeks to invoke *Rohr*, *Gribben*, and *Head* while only relying on  
19 his declaration to show disability. See Rohr, 555 F.3d at 858-59; Gribben, 528 F.3d at 1170;  
20 Head, 413 F.3d at 1058. However, these cases are not applicable here. In each of these cases, the  
21 plaintiff had a medically diagnosed impairment, and the plaintiff only sought to use his own  
22 testimony to demonstrate how that diagnosed impairment affected one or more major life  
23 activities. See Rohr, 555 F.3d at 858-59 (the plaintiff was diagnosed as diabetic, and the Court  
24 found that: “The record is replete with statements, both by Rohr and his doctors, that to manage  
25 his disease Rohr is required to strictly monitor what, and when, he eats.”); Gribben, 528 F.3d at

26 \_\_\_\_\_  
27 <sup>8</sup> Crowell attacks Dr. Kokor’s declaration on the basis that Dr. Kokor “only reviewed my medical records.” Crowell  
28 Dec. at 18. Further, Crowell claims that Dr. Kokor “never spoke to me about [paruresis] and in fact, when I attempted  
to discuss this issue with him on February 3, 2014, [Dr. Kokor] refused to do so and dismissed me.” Id. However,  
Crowell has failed to show that Dr. Kokor’s medical opinion is unreliable here. The fact remains that no medical  
provider has diagnosed Crowell with paruresis.

1 1170 (the plaintiff was diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy and paroxysmal arterial  
2 fibrillation, and testified that his diagnosed condition affected his ability to breathe, think, and  
3 perform physical activities in temperatures of 90 degrees or more); Head, 413 F.3d at 1058 (the  
4 plaintiff was diagnosed with depression/bipolar disorder in early 2001, and testified in his  
5 declaration as to how his diagnosed depression/bipolar disorder created a substantial impairment  
6 in major life activities such as sleeping and eating).<sup>9</sup> In each of these cases, the issue was not  
7 whether the plaintiff had an impairment, but whether and to what extent the diagnosed impairment  
8 affected a major life activity. In *Rohr*, *Gribben* and *Head*, there was no attempt by the plaintiff to  
9 self-diagnose an impairment.

10 In contrast, courts have recognized that attempts by a plaintiff to self-diagnose an  
11 impairment are insufficient for a claim to go forward. See Felkins v. City of Lakewood, 774 F.3d  
12 647, 651–52 (10th Cir. 2014) (holding, *inter alia*, that Plaintiff’s self-diagnosis declaration was  
13 inadmissible on summary judgment in ADA case to the extent it diagnosed Plaintiff’s medical  
14 condition); Heit v. Aerotek Inc., 2016 WL 6298771, at \*3-4 (W.D. Wash. Oct. 27, 2016) (stating  
15 that “[a] plaintiff cannot self-diagnose her own disability” and finding insufficient evidence of a  
16 disability because, “[w]ithout more, Mr. Heit’s claim that he has ‘shy bladder syndrome’ amounts  
17 to self-diagnosis, and is insufficient as a matter of law for his claim to go forward under the ADA .  
18 . . .”); Hooker v. Adams, 2008 WL 2788404, \*8–9 (E.D. Cal. July 18, 2008) (holding: “Plaintiff  
19 may not defeat defendants’ motion [for summary judgment] by simply tendering his own opinion  
20 and the opinions of lay persons that he is dyslexic and has difficulty reading and spelling.”), report  
21 and recommendation adopted, 2008 WL 3992733 (E.D. Cal. Aug. 25, 2008), aff’d, 370 Fed.  
22 Appx. 776 (9th Cir. 2010) (affirming that: “Summary judgment was proper because [Plaintiff]  
23 failed to raise a triable issue as to whether he had a cognizable disability such that defendants had  
24 the obligation to permit him to possess a type-writer otherwise prohibited by prison rules.”); see  
25 also Ernst v. Wheeler Const., Inc., 2009 WL 1513106, \*5 (D. Ariz. Mar. 17, 2009) (holding that:

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27 <sup>9</sup> The two cases that *Head* relied on in holding that a plaintiff’s testimony may suffice to establish a genuine issue of  
28 material fact also involved plaintiffs with diagnosed impairments who testified as to how their diagnoses affected  
major life activities. See Fraser v. Goodale, 342 F.3d 1032, 1045 (9th Cir. 2003) (plaintiff was diabetic); McAlindin  
v. Cty. of San Diego, 192 F.3d 1226, 1231 (9th Cir. 1999), opinion amended on denial of reh’g, 201 F.3d 1211 (9th  
Cir. 2000) (plaintiff had a diagnosis of anxiety and panic disorder).

1 “[I]n a case like this one, where medical evidence is actually available, this Court concludes that  
2 Plaintiff cannot create an issue of fact by offering only his own affidavit with a self-diagnosis in  
3 contradiction of a doctor’s contemporaneous diagnosis.”)

4 Here, Crowell has offered only his self-diagnosis as a lay person of paruresis, which is in  
5 direct contradiction to the medical evidence from Dr. Kokor, and the review of the Panel,  
6 including Dr. Enenmoh. Crowell Dec. at 2, Ex. A; Kokor Dec. at 6. Crowell’s self-diagnosis is  
7 insufficient to establish a physical impairment. See Felkins, 774 F.3d at 651–52; Heit, 2016 WL  
8 6298771, at \*3; Ernst, 2009 WL 1513106, at \*5; Hooker, 2008 WL 2788404, \*8–9. Based on the  
9 evidence before the Court, Crowell does not qualify as “disabled” under the ADA or the  
10 Rehabilitation Act on the basis of his self-diagnosed paruresis.<sup>10</sup>

11 Because Crowell has not demonstrated an impairment of paruresis, summary judgment on  
12 all of Crowell’s claims based on paruresis is proper.

13 b. Enlarged Prostate

14 Crowell has an enlarged prostate, which has been managed by the prescription drug  
15 Terazosin. DSUF 7. Crowell also maintains that he has managed his enlarged prostate by his own  
16 diligent efforts to take care of his health and by taking additional supplements, including Saw  
17 Palmetto. PRDSUF 7. Crowell’s declaration states that he has “been prescribed Terazosin since  
18 May 8, 2009, for my enlarged prostrate which inhibits free urine flow and bladder function.”  
19 Crowell Dec. at 3.

20 Crowell describes his enlarged prostate as “inhibit[ing] free urine flow and bladder  
21 function.” Crowell Dec. at 16. It is not clear whether Crowell is attempting to allege than an  
22 enlarged prostate is an impairment affecting a major life activity. See 42 U.S.C. § 12102(1)(A).  
23 Crowell’s opposition identifies only paruresis as the impairment that constitutes a disability. Opp.

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24 <sup>10</sup> The Court notes, without deciding the issue, that it is questionable whether paruresis supports a finding of disability  
25 under the ADA, as amended in 2008. Several pre-amendment ADA cases held that paruresis did not constitute a  
26 disability. See, e.g., Rathy v. Wetzel, 2014 WL 4104946, at \*6 (W.D. Pa. Aug. 19, 2014); Terbush v. Massachusetts  
ex rel. Hampden Cnty. Sheriff’s Office, 987 F.Supp.2d 109, 121-22 (D. Mass. 2013); Linkous v. CraftMaster Mfg.,  
27 Inc., 2012 WL 2905598, at \*6 (W.D. Va. July 16, 2012); Balistreri v. Express Drug Screening, LLC, 2008 WL  
28 906236, at \*5 (E.D. Wisc. March 31, 2008); Oyague v. State, 2000 WL 1231406, at \*3 (S.D.N.Y. Aug. 31, 2000); but  
see, e.g., Carey v. Arizona Dep’t of Corr., 2010 WL 148211, at \*3 (D. Ariz. Jan. 12, 2010) (Without analyzing the  
issue of disability under the ADA, finding that “liberally construed,” the plaintiff, who alleged a disability of  
paruresis, had “stated a claim under the ADA” in his amended complaint.)

1 at 3-4. However, in response to DSUF No. 3, which states: “Plaintiff has never been diagnosed by  
2 an CDCR medical personnel as having any medical condition that requires any form of disability  
3 accommodation related to urinalysis,” Crowell responded: “Deny. Plaintiff has been diagnosed  
4 with an enlarged prostate which does affect his ability to urinate.” PRDSUF 3. To the extent that  
5 Crowell is relying on an enlarged prostate, the Court is not convinced.

6 First, Crowell does not argue that his enlarged prostate affects a major life activity in any  
7 meaningful way. As stated above, he does not even argue in his opposition that his enlarged  
8 prostate is a disability. Opp. at 3-4. The undeveloped nature of Crowell’s argument is alone  
9 grounds to reject it. See John-Charles v. California, 646 F.3d 1243, 1247 n.4 (9th Cir. 2011);  
10 United States v. Kimble, 107 F.3d 712, 715 n.2 (9th Cir. 1997); see also Jordan v. Binns, 712 F.3d  
11 1123, 1134 (7th Cir. 2013).

12 Second, Crowell’s declaration has not provided any facts about how his treated enlarged  
13 prostate actually affects his urine flow and bladder function. Crowell does not declare that his  
14 enlarged prostate prevents him from urinating in front of others for a drug test, nor does he declare  
15 that his enlarged prostate prevents him from providing a urine sample within 3 hours. Therefore,  
16 Crowell’s declaration lacks the necessary factual detail to withstand summary judgment. See  
17 Hexcel Corp., 681 F.3d at 1063; Head, 413 F.3d at 1059. In contrast, Dr. Kokor has stated that it  
18 is his medical opinion that: “Crowell’s enlarged prostate does not hinder, inhibit, or in any [way]  
19 prevent him from providing a urine sample, upon request, within the three hour period provided by  
20 Section 52010.20 of the CDCR Department Operations Manual, and he did not and does not  
21 require a medical accommodation in the form of an alternative drug-testing method in lieu of the  
22 standard urinalysis testing method . . . .” Kokor Dec. at 6. Dr. Kokor’s opinion is confirmed by  
23 the review of the Panel, including Dr. Enemoh, Chief Physician and Surgeon, that “[Crowell’s]  
24 current medical condition does not prevent him from being able to produce urine for random drug  
25 testing.” Crowell Dec., Ex. A.

26 Based on the evidence before the Court, Crowell does not qualify as “disabled” under the  
27 ADA or the Rehabilitation Act on the basis of his enlarged prostate. Because Crowell has not  
28 shown that his enlarged prostate constitutes a disability, summary judgment on all of Crowell’s

1 claims based on an enlarged prostate is proper.<sup>11</sup>

2  
3 **ORDER**

4 Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 5 1. Beeler's motion for summary judgment is GRANTED; and  
6 2. The Clerk shall enter judgment in favor of Beeler and CLOSE this case.

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8 IT IS SO ORDERED.

9 Dated: March 30, 2017

  
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10 SENIOR DISTRICT JUDGE

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28 <sup>11</sup> The Court notes that Crowell, without citing to any legal authority, also argues that he was excluded from participation in or otherwise discriminated against with regard to a public entity's service, programs, or activities. However, because Crowell has failed to establish that he qualifies as disabled, the Court need not address Crowell's further arguments here.