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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

HOWARD ALLEN YOUNG,)	1:14-cv-01942-BAM (PC)
)	
Plaintiff,)	ORDER DISMISSING COMPLAINT WITH
)	LEAVE TO AMEND
v.)	(ECF No. 1)
)	
M. D. BITER, et al.,)	THIRTY-DAY DEADLINE
)	
Defendants.)	
)	
)	

I. Screening Requirement and Standard

Plaintiff Howard Allen Young (“Plaintiff”) is a state prisoner proceeding pro se and in forma pauperis in this civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and 42 U.S.C. § 2000cc-1 (Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 (RLUIPA)). Plaintiff’s complaint, filed on December 5, 2014, is currently before the Court for screening.

The Court is required to screen complaints brought by prisoners seeking relief against a governmental entity and/or against an officer or employee of a governmental entity. 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a). Plaintiff’s complaint, or any portion thereof, is subject to dismissal if it is frivolous or malicious, if it fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, or if it seeks monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1), (2); 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(ii).

A complaint must contain “a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief. . . .” Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a)(2). Detailed factual allegations are not

1 required, but “[t]hreadbare recitals of the elements of a cause of action, supported by mere
2 conclusory statements, do not suffice.” Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 556 U.S. 662, 678, 129 S.Ct. 1937,
3 1949 (2009) (citing Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly, 550 U.S. 544, 555, 127 S.Ct. 1955, 1964-65
4 (2007)). While a plaintiff’s allegations are taken as true, courts “are not required to indulge
5 unwarranted inferences.” Doe I v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., 572 F.3d 677, 681 (9th Cir. 2009)
6 (internal quotation marks and citation omitted).

7 To survive screening, Plaintiff’s claims must be facially plausible, which requires
8 sufficient factual detail to allow the Court to reasonably infer that each named defendant is liable
9 for the misconduct alleged. Iqbal, 556 U.S. at 678, 129 S.Ct. at 1949 (quotation marks omitted);
10 Moss v. United States Secret Service, 572 F.3d 962, 969 (9th Cir. 2009). The sheer possibility
11 that a defendant acted unlawfully is not sufficient, and mere consistency with liability falls short
12 of satisfying the plausibility standard. Iqbal, 556 U.S. at 678, 129 S.Ct. at 1949 (quotation marks
13 omitted); Moss, 572 F.3d at 969.

14 **II. Plaintiff’s Allegations**

15 Plaintiff is currently housed at Kern Valley State Prison, where the events in the
16 complaint are alleged to have occurred. Plaintiff names the following defendants: (1) Warden
17 M. D. Biter; (2) Appeals Coordinator S. Tallerico; (3) Community Resource Manager Cherylee
18 Wegman; (4) Jewish Chaplain Paul Shleffar; (5) CDCR A Yard Chaplain (Islamic) Maurice
19 Howard; (6) Former Inmate Assignment Staff K. Doran; and (7) the California Department of
20 Corrections and Rehabilitation (“CDCR”).

21 Plaintiff is a Messianic Jew, claiming that he is being denied Kosher Diet Meals by
22 CDCR, Rabbi Paul Shleffar and Cherylee Wegman because they do not recognize Messianic
23 Judaism. Plaintiff further claims that Warden Biter, Cherylee Wegman and Maurice Howard
24 interfere with his religious practice by failing to grant his Jewish Services Proposal and Proposal
25 Chrono. Plaintiff asserts that Cherylee Wegman granted the April 2014 Passover Event, but no
26 food was provided to him. Plaintiff also asserts that S. Tallerico has wrongfully screened out his
27 appeals, which has interfered with his access to the courts or the appeals process.

1 In Claim 1, Plaintiff alleges that he is a member of the United Messianic Jewish
2 Assembly (UMJA) and has been given chartered authority to represent and head Messianic
3 Jewish Services. Plaintiff asserts that he has been wrongfully denied both Kosher meals and
4 Inmate Minister status by Rabbi Shleffar, Cherylee Wegman and Warden Biter, even though
5 CDCR recognizes him as a representative of Jewish denomination.

6 Plaintiff currently heads the Messianic Jewish services at Kern Valley State Prison and
7 purports to assert this complaint on behalf of all those participating in the A-Yard Messianic
8 Jewish Services.

9 According to exhibits attached to Plaintiff's complaint, he has pursued more than one
10 habeas corpus action in Kern County Superior Court alleging that the prison was unduly
11 obstructing the practice of his Messianic Jewish Faith. (Exs. A, B.) Although exhibits attached
12 to his complaint demonstrate that he was denied Kosher meals because prison records indicated
13 that Plaintiff was either Christian or Muslim, not Jewish, at least one habeas petition includes
14 Plaintiff's complaints about the kosher diet he was receiving. (Ex. B.)

15 In May 2014, Plaintiff was authorized for release to participate in Messianic Jewish
16 services.

17 In Claim 2, Plaintiff alleges that following a court order on October 31, 2014, in his
18 habeas action (HC 14138A), Plaintiff sought relief by way of a 602. The 602 was screened out.
19 Plaintiff now seeks relief from this Court regarding his Jewish Services Proposal and the
20 Proposal Chrono. Plaintiff requests injunctive relief for A yard, where Chaplain Maurice
21 Howard is responsible. Plaintiff contends that since KVSP does not have a Messianic Jewish
22 Chaplain and Plaintiff being the UMJA representative, Plaintiff is eligible and qualified to
23 conduct all necessary Messianic Jewish Services and to minister to the religious needs of inmates
24 of the Messianic Jewish Faith.

25 In Claim 3, Plaintiff alleges that his attempts to seek relief have continually been stalled
26 by S. Tallerico, appeals coordinator. Plaintiff contends that his 602 Appeals (KVSP-0-14-03885
27 and KVSP 0-14-03779) were screened out on November 21, 2014. Plaintiff filed KVSP-0-14-
28 03779 seeking participation in the Jewish Kosher Diet Program, which was denied by Rabbi Paul

1 Shleffar because Plaintiff's faith was not a recognized religion for inclusion in the kosher meal
2 program. Rabbi Shleffar stated that Plaintiff should submit additional input or information in
3 writing with the CDCR 3030A for re-evaluation. Plaintiff resubmitted the CDCR 3030 with
4 attached letters, articles and case law.

5 In screening out the 602 KVSP-0-14-03779, S. Tallerico indicated that it was a duplicate
6 appeal that had been previously cancelled in May 2011. Plaintiff argues that the letters and
7 attachments were dated after the May 2011 denial and should be considered additional input or
8 information.

9 Plaintiff requests that the Court order CDCR to provide him with the Jewish Kosher Diet
10 meals and conduct an investigation into S. Tallerico's screening out of 602 appeals. Plaintiff
11 also seeks compensation and damages.

12 In Claim 3, Plaintiff alleges that he was retaliated against and wrongfully unassigned
13 from the A Yard Chapel Clerk position by Cherylee Wegman and Assignment Officer Doran
14 without due process based on Plaintiff's litigation and/or 602 efforts and his Messianic Jewish
15 beliefs.

16 Plaintiff also alleges that he has been wrongfully denied single cell status, that the
17 procedure to grant single cell status violates the Eighth Amendment and that forced double
18 celling contributes to cell fights. Plaintiff further alleges that he has been wrongfully denied out-
19 of-state transfer because CDCR has not considered Plaintiff's family situation. Plaintiff lastly
20 contends that his housing status should be "STG Black Jew from Massachusetts." Plaintiff
21 claims that this status would limit any potential cell mate or allow him to be single-celled based
22 on his previous 115 RVRs and psychiatric evaluation reports. Plaintiff requests transfer to San
23 Quentin for Patten University courses.

24 In Claim 4, Plaintiff alleges that CDCR has failed to restore all his previously forfeited
25 credits that are legible for restoration. Plaintiff contends that CDCR has failed to remove, re-
26 evaluate and provide Plaintiff with requested information regarding the Compas Evaluation
27 Program from Plaintiff's C-file records or to provide Plaintiff with pertinent facts about the
28 margins of error, who invented the test, allow for re-test and how the test scores are evaluated

1 and categorized. Plaintiff contends that CDCR has miscalculated Plaintiff's release date by
2 applying only 20% good time credits instead of 50% good time credits.

3 In Claim 5, Plaintiff alleges that he has been denied medicated lotion and/or A&D
4 ointment for his excessively dry skin condition. Instead, Plaintiff has been told to purchase it.
5 Plaintiff requests a Court order for the medicated lotion or A&D ointment, which he was
6 previously prescribed on December 1, 2009.

7 Plaintiff further alleges that he has received inferior dental care. When permanent
8 bridges were damaged, CDCR would not replace them. Plaintiff was told that he could receive a
9 removable dental plate. Plaintiff seeks a Court order requiring CDCR to repair and/or replace
10 Plaintiff's missing teeth with permanent bridges or implants.

11 Plaintiff also alleges that CDCR is in violation of the three judge court order by failing to
12 provide him with a parole hearing date, transfer to a pre-release type facility where he could
13 receive vocation/education skills and consideration for early release/re-entry hubs.

14 In Claim 6, Plaintiff alleges that he has had abdominal pain and discomfort for over 2
15 years, which has worsened. Plaintiff contends that CDCR has not provided him with a requested
16 CT scan. Plaintiff requests that this Court order CDCR to provide him with a CT scan and/or a
17 referral to a specialist to find the basis for Plaintiff's abdominal pain.

18 Plaintiff also alleges that he has been denied an x-ray on his left and right wrists, which
19 have been painfully deteriorating. Plaintiff asserts that he was overcharged for the \$5.00 co-
20 payment and subject to trust account/office overcharging/withdrawals. Plaintiff also had to
21 submit to a urinalysis, but was never given a copy of the results.

22 Plaintiff further alleges that he has been subjected to excessive strip searches, lockdowns,
23 and denied yard/time outside the cell for incidents that do not involve him. Plaintiff contends
24 that Warden Biter is responsible for the program status reports, lockdowns/modified programs,
25 strip searches, denial of yard/time outside the cell and the supervision and training of personnel
26 at KVSP.

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1 **III. Deficiencies of the Complaint**

2 Plaintiff’s complaint fails to comply with Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 8 and 18, and
3 fails to state a cognizable claim. As Plaintiff is proceeding pro se, he will be given an
4 opportunity to amend his complaint. To assist him, Plaintiff is provided with the pleading and
5 legal standards that appear applicable to his claims. Plaintiff should amend only those claims
6 that he believes, in good faith, are cognizable.

7 **A. Pleading Requirements**

8 **1. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8**

9 Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8, a complaint must contain “a short and
10 plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a).
11 As noted above, detailed factual allegations are not required, but “[t]hreadbare recitals of the
12 elements of a cause of action, supported by mere conclusory statements, do not suffice.” Iqbal,
13 556 U.S. at 678 (citation omitted). Plaintiff must set forth “sufficient factual matter, accepted as
14 true, to ‘state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face.’” Iqbal, 556 U.S. at 678 (quoting
15 Twombly, 550 U.S. at 555). While factual allegations are accepted as true, legal conclusions are
16 not. Id.; see also Twombly, 550 U.S. at 556–557; Moss, 572 F.3d at 969.

17 Plaintiff’s complaint is not a short and plain statement of his claims. Plaintiff’s factual
18 allegations are not in chronological order and many of his assertions are conclusory statements.
19 Plaintiff may not simply complain about every incident or issue that he has with prison officials
20 in a single filing. If Plaintiff chooses to amend his complaint, he should briefly and clearly state
21 the facts giving rise to his claims for relief against the named defendants.

22 **2. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 18**

23 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 18 states that “[a] party asserting a claim, counterclaim,
24 crossclaim, or third-party claim may join, as independent or alternative claims, as many claims
25 as it has against an opposing party.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 18(a). “Thus multiple claims against a single
26 party are fine, but Claim A against Defendant 1 should not be joined with unrelated Claim B
27 against Defendant 2. Unrelated claims against different defendants belong in different suits, not
28 only to prevent the sort of morass [a multiple claim, multiple defendant] suit produce[s] but also

1 to ensure that prisoners pay the required filing fees--for the Prison Litigation Reform Act limits
2 to 3 the number of frivolous suits or appeals that any prisoner may file without prepayment of
3 the required fees.” George v. Smith, 507 F.3d 605, 607 (7th Cir. 2007) (citing 28 U.S.C. §
4 1915(g)).

5 Here, Plaintiff attempts to bring suit against multiple defendants for different incidents at
6 different times. For example, Plaintiff complains about the denial of dental care by an
7 unidentified medical provider while simultaneously complaining about the denial of Kosher
8 meals by Defendants CDCR, Rabbi Paul Shleffar, Cherylee Wegman and Warden Biter.
9 Plaintiff may not pursue unrelated claims against different defendants in a single action. If
10 Plaintiff chooses to file an amended complaint and it fails to comply with Rule 18(a), all
11 unrelated claims will be subject to dismissal.

12 **3. Eleventh Amendment Immunity-CDCR**

13 Plaintiff names CDCR as a defendant. However, the Eleventh Amendment erects a
14 general bar against federal lawsuits brought against the state. Wolfson v. Brammer, 616 F.3d
15 1045, 1065-66 (9th Cir. 2010) (citation and quotation marks omitted). While “[t]he Eleventh
16 Amendment does not bar suits against a state official for prospective relief,” Wolfson, 616 F.3d
17 at 1065-66, suits against the state or its agencies are barred absolutely, regardless of the form of
18 relief sought, e.g., Pennhurst State School & Hosp. v. Halderman, 465 U.S. 89, 100, 104 S.Ct.
19 900 (1984); Buckwalter v. Nevada Bd. of Medical Examiners, 678 F.3d 737, 740 n.1 (9th Cir.
20 2012). Thus, Plaintiff may not maintain a claim against CDCR.

21 Insofar as Plaintiff seeks relief pursuant to RLUIPA, such a claim may proceed only for
22 injunctive relief against defendants acting within their official capacities. Wood v. Yordy, 753
23 F.3d 899, 904 (9th Cir. 2014).

24 **4. Supervisory Liability**

25 Insofar as Plaintiff attempts to impose liability against any defendants based solely on
26 their roles as supervisors, he may not do so. Supervisory personnel may not be held liable under
27 section 1983 for the actions of subordinate employees based on respondeat superior or vicarious
28 liability. Crowley v. Bannister, 734 F.3d 967, 977 (9th Cir. 2013); accord Lemire v. Cal. Dep’t of

1 Corr. and Rehab., 726 F.3d 1062, 1074–75 (9th Cir. 2013); Lacey v. Maricopa Cnty., 693 F.3d
2 896, 915–16 (9th Cir. 2012) (en banc). “A supervisor may be liable only if (1) he or she is
3 personally involved in the constitutional deprivation, or (2) there is a sufficient causal connection
4 between the supervisor's wrongful conduct and the constitutional violation.” Crowley, 734 F.3d
5 at 977 (internal quotation marks omitted); accord Lemire, 726 F.3d at 1074–75; Lacey, 693 F.3d
6 at 915–16. “Under the latter theory, supervisory liability exists even without overt personal
7 participation in the offensive act if supervisory officials implement a policy so deficient that the
8 policy itself is a repudiation of constitutional rights and is the moving force of a constitutional
9 violation.” Crowley, 734 F.3d at 977 (citing Hansen v. Black, 885 F.2d 642, 646 (9th Cir.1989))
10 (internal quotation marks omitted).

11 **B. Legal Standards**

12 **1. Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment**

13 “Inmates . . . retain protections afforded by the First Amendment, including its directive
14 that no law shall prohibit the free exercise of religion.” O’Lone v. Estate of Shabazz, 482 U.S.
15 342, 348, 107 S.Ct. 2400, 96 L.Ed.2d 282 (1987) (internal quotations and citations omitted). The
16 protections of the Free Exercise Clause are triggered when prison officials substantially burden
17 the practice of an inmate’s religion by preventing him from engaging in conduct which he
18 sincerely believes is consistent with his faith. Shakur v. Schriro, 514 F.3d 878, 884–85 (9th Cir.
19 2008).

20 Plaintiff complains about his ability to practice his religion, denial of his status as an
21 inmate minister and denial of a kosher diet.

22 With regard to his religious practice, Plaintiff admits, and his exhibits demonstrate, that
23 he has been released to practice his religion and services were scheduled. (ECF No. 1, p. 48-49,
24 52-53.) With regard to the denial of his status as an inmate minister, this does not appear related
25 to conduct which he sincerely believes is consistent with his faith. Further, this issue appears to
26 have been addressed by a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (HC 14138A) and was denied on
27 October 31, 2014. (ECF No. 1, p. 15.) With regard to denial of a kosher diet, exhibits attached
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1 to the complaint demonstrate that Plaintiff had been receiving a kosher diet, but complained
2 about its adequacy in habeas proceedings. (ECF No. 1, p. 47.)

3 Given Plaintiff's lack of dates and other factual contentions, the Court cannot adequately
4 determine whether his constitutional rights have been violated. The Court will not scour
5 Plaintiff's exhibits, which total more than 200 pages, to find a constitutional claim. Plaintiff will
6 be given leave to cure these deficiencies.

7 **2. Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act ("RLUIPA")**

8 A claim under RLUIPA may proceed only for injunctive relief against defendants acting
9 within their official capacities. Wood, 753 F.3d at 904 (RLUIPA does not contemplate liability
10 of government employees in individual capacity); Alvarez v. Hill, 667 F.3d 1061, 1063 (9th Cir.
11 2012) (money damages not available for RLUIPA claim against defendants sued in their official
12 capacity); Graddy v. Ding, 2014 WL 6634580, *3 (E.D. Cal. Nov. 21, 2014).

13 To state a claim for violation of RLUIPA, Plaintiff must allege facts plausibly showing
14 that the challenged policy and the practices it engenders impose a substantial burden on the
15 exercise of his religious beliefs; Plaintiff bears the initial burden of persuasion on this issue.
16 Hartmann v. California Dep't of Corr. & Rehab., 707 F.3d 1114, 1124–25 (9th Cir. 2013)
17 (quotation marks omitted).

18 "Courts are expected to apply RLUIPA's standard with due deference to the experience
19 and expertise of prison and jail administrators in establishing necessary regulations and
20 procedures to maintain good order, security and discipline, consistent with consideration of costs
21 and limited resources." Id. (citing Cutter v. Wilkinson, 544 U.S. 709, 723, 125 S.Ct. 2325, 161
22 L.Ed.2d 1020 (2005)) (internal quotation marks omitted).

23 As with his First Amendment claim, Plaintiff's allegations are not sufficiently clear to
24 determine whether or not Plaintiff has stated a claim for violation of RLUIPA.

25 **3. Appeals Processing**

26 Plaintiff cannot pursue any claims against staff relating to processing and review of his
27 inmate appeals. The existence of an inmate appeals process does not create a protected liberty
28 interest upon which Plaintiff may base a claim that he was denied a particular result or that the

1 appeals process was deficient. Ramirez v. Galaza, 334 F.3d 850, 860 (9th Cir. 2003); Mann v.
2 Adams, 855 F.2d 639, 640 (9th Cir. 1988). To state a claim under section 1983, Plaintiff must
3 demonstrate personal involvement in the underlying violation of his rights, Iqbal, 556 U.S. at
4 677; Jones v. Williams, 297 F.3d 930, 934 (9th Cir. 2002), and liability may not be based merely
5 on Plaintiff's dissatisfaction with the administrative process or a decision on an appeal, Ramirez,
6 334 F.3d at 860; Mann, 855 F.2d at 640.

7 **4. Retaliation**

8 Allegations of retaliation against a prisoner's First Amendment rights to speech or to
9 petition the government may support a section 1983 claim. Rizzo v. Dawson, 778 F.2d 527, 532
10 (9th Cir. 1985); see also Valandingham v. Bojorquez, 866 F.2d 1135 (9th Cir. 1989); Pratt v.
11 Rowland, 65 F.3d 802, 807 (9th Cir. 1995). "Within the prison context, a viable claim of First
12 Amendment retaliation entails five basic elements: (1) An assertion that a state actor took some
13 adverse action against an inmate (2) because of (3) that prisoner's protected conduct, and that
14 such action (4) chilled the inmate's exercise of his First Amendment rights, and (5) the action did
15 not reasonably advance a legitimate correctional goal." Rhodes v. Robinson, 408 F.3d 559, 567–
16 68 (9th Cir. 2005); accord Brodheim v. Cry, 584 F.3d 1262, 1269 (9th Cir. 2009).

17 In Claim 3, Plaintiff alleges that he was retaliated against and wrongfully unassigned
18 from the A Yard Chapel Clerk position by Cherylee Wegman and Assignment Officer Doran
19 based on his litigation and/or 602 efforts. At best, Plaintiff's allegations are conclusory. Further,
20 he has not alleged that Defendants' actions did not advance a legitimate correctional goal.

21 **5. Eighth Amendment – Medical Care**

22 While the Eighth Amendment of the United States Constitution entitles Plaintiff to
23 medical care, the Eighth Amendment is violated only when a prison official acts with deliberate
24 indifference to an inmate's serious medical needs. Snow v. McDaniel, 681 F.3d 978, 985 (9th
25 Cir. 2012), overruled in part on other grounds, Peralta v. Dillard, 744 F.3d 1076, 1082-83 (9th
26 Cir. 2014); Wilhelm v. Rotman, 680 F.3d 1113, 1122 (9th Cir. 2012); Jett v. Penner, 439 F.3d
27 1091, 1096 (9th Cir. 2006). Plaintiff "must show a serious medical need by demonstrating that
28 failure to treat [his] condition could result in further significant injury or the unnecessary and

1 wanton infliction of pain,” and (2) that “the defendant’s response to the need was deliberately
2 indifferent.” Wilhelm, 680 F.3d at 1122 (citing Jett, 439 F.3d at 1096). Deliberate indifference
3 is shown by “(a) a purposeful act or failure to respond to a prisoner’s pain or possible medical
4 need and (b) harm caused by the indifference.” Wilhelm, 680 F.3d at 1122 (citing Jett, 439 F.3d
5 at 1096). The requisite state of mind is one of subjective recklessness, which entails more than
6 ordinary lack of due care. Snow, 681 F.3d at 985 (citation and quotation marks omitted);
7 Wilhelm, 680 F.3d at 1122.

8 Here, Plaintiff’s allegations regarding his medical care are scattershot, conclusory and do
9 not link any specific defendant to his claims of deliberate indifference to serious medical needs.
10 To the extent Plaintiff merely disagrees with the course of treatment for his wrist, dry skin,
11 abdominal pain and teeth, he cannot state a cognizable Eighth Amendment claim. A prisoner’s
12 mere disagreement with diagnosis or treatment does not support a claim of deliberate
13 indifference. Sanchez v. Vild, 891 F.2d 240, 242 (9th Cir.1989).

14 **6. Eighth Amendment-Conditions of Confinement**

15 Plaintiff appears to allege that lockdowns violated his rights under the Eighth
16 Amendment. Although unclear, it appears that Plaintiff is complaining about the denial of yard
17 time. The Eighth Amendment protects prisoners from inhumane methods of punishment and
18 from inhumane conditions of confinement. Morgan v. Morgensen, 465 F.3d 1041, 1045 (9th Cir.
19 2006). Extreme deprivations are required to make out a conditions of confinement claim, and
20 only those deprivations denying the minimal civilized measure of life’s necessities are
21 sufficiently grave to form the basis of an Eighth Amendment violation. Hudson v. McMillian,
22 503 U.S. 1, 9, 112 S.Ct. 995, 117 L.Ed.2d 156 (1992) (citations and quotations omitted). In order
23 to state a claim for violation of the Eighth Amendment, the plaintiff must allege facts sufficient
24 to support a claim that prison officials knew of and disregarded a substantial risk of serious harm
25 to the plaintiff. E.g., Farmer v. Brennan, 511 U.S. 825, 847, 114 S.Ct. 1970, 128 L.Ed.2d 811
26 (1994); Frost v. Agnos, 152 F.3d 1124, 1128 (9th Cir. 1998).

1 The circumstances, nature, and duration of the deprivations are relevant in determining
2 whether the conditions complained of are grave enough to form the basis of a viable Eighth
3 Amendment claim. Johnson v. Lewis, 217 F.3d 726, 731 (9th Cir. 2006).

4 Here, Plaintiff has not alleged sufficient facts to demonstrate that the conditions he is
5 complaining of are grave enough to form the basis of an Eighth Amendment claim. Plaintiff
6 does not include facts regarding the circumstances, nature or duration of any claimed violation.

7 **7. Prison Transfer**

8 Plaintiff appears to seek a prison transfer. However, there is no substantive liberty
9 interest in being housed in a particular prison and an inmate has no right to incarceration in the
10 prison of his choice. Olim v. Wakinekona, 461 U.S. 238, 245, 103 S.Ct. 1741, 1745, 75 L.Ed.2d
11 813 (1983); White v. Lambert, 370 F.3d 1002, 1013 (9th Cir. 2004) (overruled on other grounds
12 by Hayward v. Marshall, 603 F.3d 546 (9th Cir. 2010)).

13 **8. Good Time Credits**

14 To the extent Plaintiff requests restoration of good time credits, he may not pursue such a
15 claim in a section 1983 action. A claim for restoration of credits lies at “the core of habeas
16 corpus.” Wilkinson v. Dotson, 544 U.S. 74, 79, 125 S.Ct. 1242, 161 L.Ed.2d 253 (2005)
17 (quotation and citation omitted).

18 **9. Remedial Orders in Other Cases**

19 To the extent that Plaintiff is attempting to base a claim on alleged violations of any order
20 or remedial plan in another case, such violations do not provide an independent basis for
21 damages in this action. See Cagle v. Sutherland, 334 F.3d 980, 986–87 (9th Cir. 2003) (consent
22 decrees often go beyond constitutional minimum requirements, and do not create or expand
23 rights); Green v. McKaskle, 788 F.2d 1116, 1123 (5th Cir. 1986) (remedial decrees remedy
24 constitutional violations but do not create or enlarge constitutional rights). “[R]emedial orders . .
25 . do not create ‘rights, privileges or immunities secured by the Constitution and laws’ of the
26 United States.” Hart v. Cambra, 1997 WL 564059, *5 (N.D.Cal. Aug.22, 1997) (quoting Green,
27 788 F.2d at 1123–24). Plaintiff may not state a section 1983 claim based on the failure to comply
28 with any remedial plan or consent decree.

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