1 2 3 4 5 6 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 9 10 WAYNE ALAN HARR, Case No.: 1:15-cv-01573 - --- - JLT 11 Plaintiff, ORDER DIRECTING THE CLERK TO ASSIGN A 12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE TO THE v. ACTION 13 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS 14 DENYING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO PROCEED FORMA PAUPERIS AND DISMISSING THE Defendants. 15 SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT WITHOUT LEAVE TO AMEND 16 17 Plaintiff Wayne Alan Harr initiated this action by filing a complaint against the United States 18 of America, the President of the United States, the Bakersfield Police Department, Juan and "his 19 partner Pinky," Trans West Security, Narducci's Café, Kern Medical Center, and Rite Aid Pharmacy 20 for "intentional malicious infliction of psychophysiological[1] distress." (Doc. 1) The Court finds 21 Plaintiff's claims are frivolous, it is recommended that Plaintiff's motion to proceed in forma pauperis 22 **DENIED** and his complaint be **DISMISSED** without leave to amend. 23 **Motion to Proceed In Forma Pauperis** 24 As a general rule, all parties instituting any civil action, suit or proceeding in a United States 25 District Court must pay a filing fee. 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a). However, the Court may authorize the 26 commencement of an action "without prepayment of fees and costs of security therefor, by a person who submits an affidavit that . . . the person is unable to pay such fees or give security therefor." 28 27

U.S.C. § 1915(a)(1). Therefore, an action may proceed despite a failure to prepay the filing fee only if

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leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* ("IFP") is granted by the Court. *See Rodriguez v. Cook*, 169 F.3d 1178, 1177 (9th Cir. 1999).

If a plaintiff seeks to proceed *in forma pauperis*, the Court is required to review the complaint, and shall dismiss the case at any time if the Court determines that the allegation of poverty is untrue, or the action or appeal is "frivolous, malicious or fails to state a claim on which relief may be granted; or ... seeks monetary relief against a defendant who is immune from such relief." 28 U.S.C. 1915(e)(2). A claim is frivolous "when the facts alleged arise to the level of the irrational or the wholly incredible, whether or not there are judicially noticeable facts available to contradict them." *Denton v. Hernandez*, 504 U.S. 25, 32-33 (1992); *see also Neitzke v. Williams*, 490 U.S. 319, 325, 328 (1989) (finding claims may be dismissed as "frivolous" where the allegations are "fanciful" or "describe[e] fantastic or delusional scenarios").

Here, the Court recommends Plaintiff's application to proceed in forma pauperis be denied because, as discussed below, the allegations of the complaint are irrational and incredible, and Plaintiff fails to allege a claim upon which relief may be granted by this Court.

II. Pleading Requirements

General rules for pleading complaints are governed by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. A complaint must include a statement affirming the court's jurisdiction, "a short and plain statement of the claim showing the pleader is entitled to relief; and . . . a demand for the relief sought, which may include relief in the alternative or different types of relief." Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a). The Federal Rules adopt a flexible pleading policy, and *pro se* pleadings are held to "less stringent standards" than those drafted by attorneys. *Haines v. Kerner*, 404 U.S. 519, 521-21 (1972).

A complaint must state the elements of the plaintiff's claim in a plain and succinct manner. Jones v. Cmty Redevelopment Agency, 733 F.2d 646, 649 (9th Cir. 1984). The purpose of a complaint is to give the defendant fair notice of the claims against him, and the grounds upon which the complaint stands. Swierkiewicz v. Sorema N.A., 534 U.S. 506, 512 (2002). The Supreme Court noted,

Rule 8 does not require detailed factual allegations, but it demands more than an unadorned, the-defendant-unlawfully-harmed-me accusation. A pleading that offers labels and conclusions or a formulaic recitation of the elements of a cause of action will not do. Nor does a complaint suffice if it tenders naked assertions devoid of further factual enhancement.

Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009) (internal quotation marks and citations omitted).

Conclusory and vague allegations do not support a cause of action. *Ivey v. Board of Regents*, 673 F.2d

266, 268 (9th Cir. 1982). The Court clarified further,

[A] complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to "state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face." [Citation]. A claim has facial plausibility when the plaintiff pleads factual content that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged. [Citation]. The plausibility standard is not akin to a "probability requirement," but it asks for more than a sheer possibility that a defendant has acted unlawfully. [Citation]. Where a complaint pleads facts that are "merely consistent with" a defendant's liability, it "stops short of the line between possibility and plausibility of 'entitlement to relief.'

Iqbal, 556 U.S. at 678 (citations omitted). If factual allegations are well-pled, a court should assume their truth and determine whether the facts would make the plaintiff entitled to relief; conclusions in the pleading are not entitled to the same assumption of truth. *Id*.

III. Discussion and Analysis

Plaintiff seeks to hold several individuals and entities liable for unexplained and unidentified wrongs. For example, Plaintiff asserts defendants Juan "and his partner Pinky" are liable to Plaintiff for \$5,000,000—without identifying any alleged wrongs by Juan or Pinky. (Doc. 1 at 1, emphasis omitted) In addition, Plaintiff asserts the "Bakersfield Police Department is liable to Plaintiff in the amount of \$10 million," Trans West Security "is liable to Plaintiff in the amount of \$10 million and Kern Medical Center Hospital is liable to Plaintiff in the amount of \$30 million." (*Id.*, emphasis omitted.) Further, Plaintiff alleges the United States Government "is liable to Plaintiff in the amount of "\$1 trillion and President Barack H. Obama is liable to Plaintiff in the amount of \$10 million." (*Id.*, emphasis omitted.)

Notably, Plaintiff raises claims that are completely unrelated to other claims in his complaint.

Pursuant to Rule 18 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, which governs joinder of claims, "A party

¹ As an initial matter, Plaintiff initiated this action by filing a document entitled his "2nd Certified Complaint." Evidentially, Plaintiff intended this document to be an amended pleading for Case No. 15-cv-1452-LJO-JLT, which he initiated on September 24, 2015. However, the Clerk's Office created a separate action in the Court's system Indeed, because the complaints, for the most part, are raised against different defendants and are based upon different events, this complaint should not have been filed in the other matter.

² In the initial complaint filed in Case No. 15-cv-1452-LJO-JLT, Plaintiff alleged he is the son of Adolph Hitler and has been "forced to live" at Venice Vista, which he believes is "a modern day concentration camp" run by the son of Herr Hess, named "Mr. Juan." (Doc. 1 at 2-3)

asserting a claim ... may join, as independent or alternative claims, as many claims as it has against an opposing party." While joinder is encouraged for purposes of judicial economy, the "Federal Rules do not contemplate joinder of different actions against different parties which present entirely different factual and legal issues." *Zhu v. Countrywide Realty Co., Inc.*, 160 F.Supp.2d 1210, 1225 (D.Kan. 2001) (citation omitted). Consequently, "[u]nrelated claims against different defendants belong in different suits." *George v. Smith*, 507 F.3d 605, 607 (7th Cir. 2007). For this reason, the complaint filed by Plaintiff violates the requirements of Rule 18.

Regardless, Plaintiff fails to allege facts to support his claims for relief. Previously, the Court observed that Plaintiff failed to allege "any factual allegations in the complaint," though he identified "numerous defendants and a monetary amount in damages that he is seeking against each defendant." (Doc. 4 at 2) The Court informed Plaintiff that he failed to state a claim and directed Plaintiff to "file an amended complaint that alleges facts sufficient to support his claims for relief." (*Id.*) Rather than doing so, Plaintiff filed an amended pleading in which he sought to "incorporate[] all allegiations [sic] from previous complaints," and added to the list of entities he believes owe him money, including Channel 17 News, Bakersfield Chief of Police Greg Williamson, Mercy Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital, and Judge Vega of the Kern County Superior Court. (Doc. 8 at 1-2)

Significantly, there are no *facts* alleged by Plaintiff to support his requests for millions of dollars against each of the defendants identified in his various complaints. Rather, Plaintiff only states his conclusion that each of these individuals and entities are liable for millions, a trillion, or even a billion dollars. (*See* Docs. 1, 4, and 8) The Court is not to be used to vindicate every perceived slight or insult suffered by Plaintiff. Even if an act truly is actionable, it does not mean that it arises within the jurisdiction of the District Court. To state a claim for a violation of civil rights, Plaintiff must identify an action *that violates the Constitution of the United States or another federal law*, and taken by a person acting under color of state law.

There are no allegations to support any conclusion that the individuals with whom Plaintiff interacted acted under color of authority. Rather, in general, individuals—such as those working at hospitals, doctors' offices, and housing complexes—are private parties and do not act under color of authority with actions attributable to the government. *See Price v. Hawaii*, 939 F.2d 702, 707-09 (9th

Cir. 1991). Further, Plaintiff identifies only state causes of action in his final pleading. *See*, *e.g.*, *Robinson v. Solano County*, 278 F.3d 1007, 1016 (9th Cir. 2002) (explaining the plaintiff's "state law claims . . . [included] false arrest, false imprisonment, assault and battery"); *Rangel v. Tilton*, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 163644, at *1 (E.D. Cal. Nov. 15, 2012) (identifying assault and battery as claims arising "under state law").

Finally, the Court finds the allegations that the President of the United States and the Government are liable to Plaintiff for millions of dollars are clearly unsupported by any facts.³
Accordingly, the Court finds Plaintiff's allegations are fanciful and lack an arguable basis in fact. *See Denton*, 504 U.S. at 32-33.

IV. Order

Good cause appearing, the Clerk of Court is DIRECTED to assign a United States District Judge to the action.

V. Findings and Recommendations

Given the irrational nature of Plaintiff's claims presented in each of the pleadings filed in this action, the Court finds further leave to amend would be futile. *See Iqbal*, 556 U.S. at 679 (noting that a court should "draw on its judicial experience and common sense" to determine whether a claim is plausible); *Denton*, 504 U.S. at 32-33 (a court may dismiss a claim as frivolous if the alleged facts are "clearly baseless," "fanciful," or "fantastic"); *Lopez v. Smith*, 203 F.3d 1122, 1129 (9th Cir. 2000) ("Under Ninth Circuit case law, district courts are only required to grant leave to amend if a complaint can possibly be saved. Courts are not required to grant leave to amend if a complaint lacks merit entirely").

Based upon the foregoing, IT IS HEREBY RECOMMENDED:

- 1. Plaintiff's motions to proceed in forma pauperis (Docs. 5 and 6) be **DENIED**;
- 2. The second amended complaint (Doc. 8) be **DISMISSED** without leave to amend;
- 3. Plaintiff's motion for service (Doc. 7) be **DENIED**; and
- 4. The Clerk of Court be directed to close this matter.

³ Previously, Plaintiff alleged that the President of the United States and the Secret Service have conspired to trespass, falsely imprison and murder Plaintiff. (Case No. 1:14-cv-1452-LJO-JLT, Doc. 1)

These Findings and Recommendations are submitted to the United States District Judge assigned to the case, pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and Rule 304 of the Local Rules of Practice for the United States District Court, Eastern District of California. Within fourteen days after being served with these Findings and Recommendations, any party may file written objections with the court. Such a document should be captioned "Objections to Magistrate Judge's Findings and Recommendations." The parties are advised that failure to file objections within the specified time may waive the right to appeal the District Court's order. Martinez v. Ylst, 951 F.2d 1153 (9th Cir. 1991); Wilkerson v. Wheeler, 772 F.3d 834, 834 (9th Cir. 2014). IT IS SO ORDERED. /s/ Jennifer L. Thurston
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE Dated: **December 9, 2015**