1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 9 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 ELI LILLY AND COMPANY, Case No. 1:16-cv-00178-DAD-SAB 11 12 Plaintiff, ORDER DIRECTING CLERK OF COURT TO TERMINATE DEFENDANT JOHN 13 DEREK GITMED FROM THIS ACTION v. 14 JOHN DEREK GITMED, et al., (ECF No. 59) 15 Defendants. 16 This action was filed on February 8, 2016. (ECF No. 1.) On August 25, 2017, Plaintiff 17 filed a notice of voluntary dismissal of Defendant John Derek Gitmed without prejudice pursuant 18 to Rule 41(a)(1) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. (ECF No. 59.) 19 "[U]nder Rule 41(a)(1)(A)(i), 'a plaintiff has an absolute right to voluntarily dismiss his 20 action prior to service by the defendant of an answer or a motion for summary judgment." 21 Commercial Space Mgmt. Co., Inc. v. Boeing Co., Inc., 193 F.3d 1074, 1077 (9th Cir. 1999) 22 (quoting Wilson v. City of San Jose, 111 F.3d 688, 692 (9th Cir. 1997)). The Ninth Circuit has 23 held that Rule 41(a) allows a plaintiff to dismiss without a court order any defendant who has yet 24

to serve an answer or motion for summary judgment. Pedrina v. Chun, 987 F.2d 608, 609 (9th

Cir. 1993). "[A] dismissal under Rule 41(a)(1) is effective on filing, no court order is required,

the parties are left as though no action had been brought, the defendant can't complain, and the

district court lacks jurisdiction to do anything about it." Commercial Space Mgmt. Co., Inc., 193

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F.3d at 1078. In this action, Defendant John Derek Gitmed has not filed an answer or motion for Therefore, Plaintiff has voluntarily dismissed Defendant John Derek summary judgment. Gitmed. The only defendant remaining in this action is Anthony Pollino, Jr. ("Defendant Pollino"). On May 4, 2017, the Court granted in part and denied in part Plaintiff's application

for entry of default judgment (ECF No. 44) against Defendant Pollino. (ECF No. 56.) Plaintiff's application for entry of default judgment against Defendant Pollino was granted as to liability, but denied as to damages and injunctive relief. (ECF No. 56.)

Accordingly, the Clerk of the Court is DIRECTED to terminate Defendant John Derek Gitmed from this action. Plaintiff shall file an application for entry of default judgment against Defendant Pollino within thirty (30) days of the date of service of this order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: **August 28, 2017**

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE