

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
7 FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
8

9 ERIC STRATFORD,

10 Plaintiff,

11 v.

12 PAUL D. BRAZELTON, *et al.*,

13 Defendants.  
14

Case No. 1:17-cv-00766-JDP

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WHY THIS  
CASE SHOULD NOT BE DISMISSED FOR  
FAILURE TO PROSECUTE AND FAILURE  
TO COMPLY WITH A COURT ORDER

THIRTY-DAY DEADLINE

15 Plaintiff Eric Stratford is a former state prisoner proceeding without counsel in this civil  
16 rights action brought under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Plaintiff’s complaint was screened on October  
17 15, 2019, and plaintiff was ordered to respond within thirty days. ECF No. 20. Plaintiff,  
18 however, has filed neither a response to the screening order nor a first amended complaint.

19 To manage our docket effectively, we impose deadlines and require litigants to meet  
20 those deadlines. When a plaintiff fails to comply with court-imposed deadlines, the court may  
21 dismiss the plaintiff’s case for failure to prosecute. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 41; *Hells Canyon Pres.*  
22 *Council v. U.S. Forest Serv.*, 403 F.3d 683, 689 (9th Cir. 2005) (“[T]he consensus among our  
23 sister circuits, with which we agree, is that courts may dismiss under Rule 41(b) sua sponte, at  
24 least under certain circumstances.”). Involuntary dismissal is a harsh penalty, but the court has  
25 a duty to administer justice expeditiously and avoid needless burden for the parties. *See*  
26 *Pagtalunan v. Galaza*, 291 F.3d 639, 642 (9th Cir. 2002); Fed. R. Civ. P. 1.

27 We will give plaintiff the opportunity to explain why the court should not dismiss his  
28

1 case for failure to prosecute. Plaintiff's failure to respond to this order will constitute another  
2 failure to comply with a court order and will result in dismissal of this case. Accordingly,  
3 plaintiff must show cause within thirty days of the date of entry of this order why the court  
4 should not dismiss his case for failure to prosecute.

5  
6 IT IS SO ORDERED.

7  
8 Dated: March 19, 2020

  
9  
10 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
No. 205.