

1 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(1). Mallard v. United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa,
2 490 U.S. 296, 298, 109 S.Ct. 1814, 1816 (1989). However, in certain exceptional circumstances
3 the Court may request the voluntary assistance of counsel pursuant to section 1915(e)(1). Rand,
4 113 F.3d at 1525.

5 Without a reasonable method of securing and compensating counsel, the Court will seek
6 volunteer counsel only in the most serious and exceptional cases. In determining whether
7 “exceptional circumstances exist, the district court must evaluate both the likelihood of success of
8 the merits [and] the ability of the [plaintiff] to articulate his claims *pro se* in light of the
9 complexity of the legal issues involved.” Id. (internal quotation marks and citations omitted).

10 The Court will not order appointment of pro bono counsel at this time. The Court has
11 reviewed the record in this case, and at this time the Court cannot make a determination that Plaintiff
12 is likely to succeed on the merits of his claims (the complaint is still awaiting screening). Moreover,
13 based on the complaint, it appears that Plaintiff can adequately articulate his claims.

14 Plaintiff is advised that he is not precluded from renewing his request for appointment of pro
15 bono counsel at a later stage of the proceedings.

16 For the foregoing reasons, IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiff’s request for appointment of pro
17 bono counsel is DENIED without prejudice.

18 IT IS SO ORDERED.

19 Dated: August 3, 2017

20 /s/ Eric P. Gray
21 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE