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8	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT			
9	EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA			
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11	SUTEN BLACKGOLD,) Case No.: 1:21-cv-00857-SAB (PC)		
12	Plaintiff,	ORDER DIRECTING CLERK OF COURT TO		
13	v.	RANDOMLY ASSIGN A DISTRICT JUDGE TO THIS ACTION		
14	KERN VALLEY STATE PRISON CASE RECORDS, et al.,) FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS		
15		RECOMMENDING DENIAL OF PLAINTIFF'SMOTION TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS		
16	Defendants.) (ECF No. 2)		
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18	Plaintiff Suten Blackgold is proceeding pro se in this civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §			
19	1983.			
20	Plaintiff filed the instant complaint on May 28, 2021, along with a motion to proceed <i>in forma</i>			
21	pauperis.			
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23	LEGAL STANDARD			
24	28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(1) permits a plaintiff to bring a civil action "without prepayment of fees or			
25	security thereof" if the plaintiff submits a financial affidavit that demonstrates the plaintiff's "is unable			
26	to pay such fees or give security therefor." A prisoner seeking to bring a civil action must, in addition			
27	to filing an affidavit, "submit a certified copy of	of the trust fund account statement for the 6-month		
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27 28 each prison at which the prisoner is or was confined." 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(2). II.

period immediately preceding the filing of the complaint ... obtained from the appropriate official of

DISCUSSION

Plaintiff has filed an application declaring that, due to his poverty, he is unable to pre-pay the full amount of fees and costs for these proceedings or give security therefor, and that he believes that he is entitled to the relief sought in his complaint. On June 2, 2021, the Court received a certified inmate statement report by an officer at Kern Valley State Prison, where Plaintiff is currently housed.¹ (ECF No. 6.) The statement provides the activity in Plaintiff's inmate trust account for the entire sixmonth period preceding the filing of the complaint. Plaintiff's certified inmate statement report indicates that he currently has an available sum of \$1,235.61 on account to his credit at Kern Valley State Prison. Further, the statement report indicates that, on April 28, 2021, the sum of \$1,400.00 was deposited to Plaintiff's account. Although the certified trust account statement report indicates that Plaintiff has an encumbrance of \$0.83, obligations for prior case filing fees in the amount of \$1,093.00, and a total restitution fine in the amount of \$600.00, the available balance in Plaintiff's account reflects that he can pay the \$402.00 filing fee for this action.

Based on the foregoing, the information that Plaintiff has provided to the Court reflects that he is financially able to pre-pay the entire filing fee to commence this action. Although the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has held that "the filing fee ... should not take the prisoner's last dollar," Olivares v. Marshall, 59 F.3d 109, 112 (9th Cir. 1995), in these circumstances, it appears Plaintiff has sufficient funds to pre-pay the \$402.00 filing fee with money left over. Should Plaintiff have additional information to provide the Court, or should his available balance change by the time he receives this order, he may notify the Court. However, the Court has the authority to consider any reasons and circumstances for any change in Plaintiff's available assets and funds. See also Collier v. Tatum, 722

¹ The Court takes judicial notice of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation website reflects that Plaintiff's State Prison Identification Number AS8775 lists his name as Mitchell Quintin Grady-the number under which the trust account statement was provided. See https://inmatelocator.cdcr.ca.gov/

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F.2d 653, 656 (11th Cir. 1983) (district court may consider an unexplained decrease in an inmate's trust account, or whether an inmate's account has been depleted intentionally to avoid court costs). Therefore, Plaintiff's motion to proceed *in forma pauperis* must be denied. If Plaintiff wishes to proceed with this action, Plaintiff must pre-pay the \$402.00 filing fee in full.

III.

ORDER AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Accordingly, it is HEREBY ORDERED that the Clerk of the Court to randomly assign a Fresno District Judge to this action.

Further, IT IS HEREBY RECOMMENDED that:

- 1. Plaintiff's motion to proceed in forma pauperis, (ECF No. 2), be DENIED; and
- 2. Plaintiff be ordered to pay the \$400.00 filing fee in full in order to proceed with this action.

These Findings and Recommendations will be submitted to the United States District Judge assigned to the case, pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(l). Within **fourteen** (**14**) days after being served with these Findings and Recommendations, Plaintiff may file written objections with the court. The document should be captioned "Objections to Magistrate Judge's Findings and Recommendations." Plaintiff is advised that the failure to file objections within the specified time may result in the waiver of the "right to challenge the magistrate's factual findings" on appeal. <u>Wilkerson v. Wheeler</u>, 772 F.3d 834, 839 (9th Cir. 2014) (citing <u>Baxter v. Sullivan</u>, 923 F.2d 1391, 1394 (9th Cir. 1991)).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: June 3, 2021

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE