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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

EARL D. SMITH,

Plaintiff,

No. CIV S-09-0654 EFB P

vs.

B. PRIOLO, et al.,

Defendants.

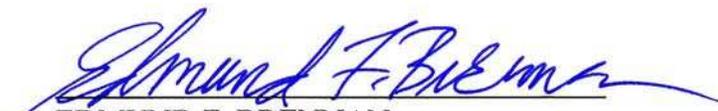
ORDER

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Plaintiff is a state prisoner proceeding without counsel in an action brought under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. He has requested that the court appoint counsel. District courts lack authority to require counsel to represent indigent prisoners in section 1983 cases. *Mallard v. United States Dist. Court*, 490 U.S. 296, 298 (1989). In exceptional circumstances, the court may request counsel voluntarily to represent such a plaintiff. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(1); *Terrell v. Brewer*, 935 F.2d 1015, 1017 (9th Cir. 1991); *Wood v. Housewright*, 900 F.2d 1332, 1335-36 (9th Cir. 1990). The court finds that there are no exceptional circumstances in this case.

Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that plaintiff's August 23, 2011 request for appointment of counsel is denied.

DATED: August 29, 2011.

  
EDMUND F. BRENNAN  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE