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

MIKAELLA CRISTINA ALFARO,

Plaintiff,

No. 2:12-cv-2289-GEB-JFM (PS)

vs.

VITAL RECORDS,

ORDER AND

Defendant.

FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

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Plaintiff is proceeding pro se. Plaintiff has filed an in forma pauperis affidavit in which she states that she is presently employed and that her gross wages are \$8,500.00 (she does not specify whether these wages are per week, month or year). Plaintiff also receives \$4568.00 from gifts or inheritance, \$1108.00 for social security, and unspecified rent payments interest. Plaintiff again fails to specify how often she receives these payments. Finally, plaintiff states that she has \$292,000.00 in her checking or savings account.

Pursuant to federal statute, a filing fee of \$350.00 is required to commence a civil action in federal district court. 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a). The court may authorize the commencement of an action "without prepayment of fees and costs or security therefor, by a person who makes affidavit that he is unable to pay such costs or give security therefor." 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a). The amount of plaintiff's earnings shows that plaintiff is able to pay the filing

1 fee and costs. Thus, plaintiff has made an inadequate showing of indigency. See Alexander v.
2 Carson Adult High Sch., 9 F.3d 1448 (9th Cir. 1993); California Men's Colony v. Rowland, 939
3 F.2d 854, 858 (9th Cir. 1991); Stehouwer v. Hennessey, 841 F. Supp. 316, (N.D. Cal. 1994).

4 The federal in forma pauperis statute authorizes federal courts to dismiss a case if
5 the action is legally “frivolous or malicious,” fails to state a claim upon which relief may be
6 granted, or seeks monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. 28 U.S.C.
7 § 1915(e)(2).

8 A claim is legally frivolous when it lacks an arguable basis either in law or in
9 fact. Neitzke v. Williams, 490 U.S. 319, 325 (1989); Franklin v. Murphy, 745 F.2d 1221, 1227-
10 28 (9th Cir. 1984). The court may, therefore, dismiss a claim as frivolous where it is based on an
11 indisputably meritless legal theory or where the factual contentions are clearly baseless.
12 Neitzke, 490 U.S. at 327.

13 A complaint, or portion thereof, should only be dismissed for failure to state a
14 claim upon which relief may be granted if it appears beyond doubt that plaintiff can prove no set
15 of facts in support of the claim or claims that would entitle him to relief. Hishon v. King &
16 Spalding, 467 U.S. 69, 73 (1984) (citing Conley v. Gibson, 355 U.S. 41, 45-46 (1957)); Palmer
17 v. Roosevelt Lake Log Owners Ass'n, 651 F.2d 1289, 1294 (9th Cir. 1981). In reviewing a
18 complaint under this standard, the court must accept as true the allegations of the complaint in
19 question, Hospital Bldg. Co. v. Rex Hosp. Trustees, 425 U.S. 738, 740 (1976), construe the
20 pleading in the light most favorable to the plaintiff, and resolve all doubts in the plaintiff's favor,
21 Jenkins v. McKeithen, 395 U.S. 411, 421 (1969).

22 In the operative complaint filed in this action, plaintiff seeks to change the middle
23 name of her children so that they do not have the same name or middle name as plaintiff's sister
24 or her grandfather. There is no federal claim on these facts. Because amendment would be
25 futile, the court will recommend that this action be dismissed without leave to amend.

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