signed, and contains allegations pertaining only to a "previous lawsuit," and not to the instant

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action. See Dckt. No. 1. Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure requires that "[e]very

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pleading, written motion, and other paper . . . be signed by at least one attorney of record in the attorney's name—or by a party personally if the party is unrepresented." Fed. R. Civ. P. 11(a). And pursuant to Rule 8 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, a complaint must include "a short and plain statement of the claim" showing entitlement to relief. Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a)(2). To properly commence a civil action, plaintiff must file a signed complaint. Fed. R. Civ. P. 3.

Until plaintiff submits a proper complaint and either pays the filing fee or meets the requirements of 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a), there simply is no case before the court.

Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 1. The Clerk of the Court is directed to mail to plaintiff a form application for leave to proceed in forma pauperis and a form for filing a civil rights action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.
- 2. Plaintiff has 30 days from the date of service of this order to submit either the filing fee or the application required by § 1915(a).
 - 3. Plaintiff has 30 days from the date of service of this order to submit a complaint.
 - 4. Failure to comply with this order will result in this action being dismissed.

DATED: March 19, 2013.

EĎMUND F. BRĚNNAN

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE