In addition, plaintiff requests appointment of 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 an

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1	attorney to voluntarily to represent such a plaintiff. See 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(1); Terrell v.
2	Brewer, 935 F.2d 1015, 1017 (9th Cir. 1991); Wood v. Housewright, 900 F.2d 1332, 1335-36 (9th
3	Cir. 1990). When determining whether "exceptional circumstances" exist, the court must
4	consider the likelihood of success on the merits as well as the ability of the plaintiff to articulate
5	his claims pro se in light of the complexity of the legal issues involved. <i>Palmer v. Valdez</i> , 560
6	F.3d 965, 970 (9th Cir. 2009). Having considered those factors, the court finds there are no
7	exceptional circumstances in this case.
8	Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:
9	1. The October 31, 2013 findings and recommendations (ECF No. 12) are vacated.
10	2. Within 30 days from the date of this order, plaintiff shall file a completed affidavit in
11	support of his application to proceed in forma pauperis. Failure to comply with this
12	order may result in another recommendation of dismissal.
13	3. The Clerk of the court is directed to send to plaintiff a new form Application to
14	Proceed In Forma Pauperis by a Prisoner.
15	4. Plaintiff's request for appointment of counsel (ECF No. 10) is denied without
16	prejudice.
17	DATED: January 29, 2014.
18	EDMUND F. BRENNAN
19	UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
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