

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8 **IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
9 **FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
10

11 DEMETRIUS K. BRASHEAR,

No. 2:14-cv-2136-CMK-P

12 Petitioner,

13 vs.

ORDER

14 FOULK, et al.,

15 Respondents.
16 _____/

17 Petitioner, a state prisoner proceeding with counsel, brings this petition for a writ
18 of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. Petitioner has consented to Magistrate Judge
19 jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(c) and no other party has been served or appeared in the
20 action.

21 Petitioner seeks leave to proceed in forma pauperis. Petitioner has submitted the
22 affidavit required by 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a) showing that petitioner is unable to prepay fees and
23 costs or give security therefor. The request will be granted.

24 Also pending before the court is petitioner's petition for a writ of habeas corpus
25 (Doc. 1). Rule 4 of the Federal Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases provides for summary
26 dismissal of a habeas petition "[i]f it plainly appears from the face of the petition and any

1 exhibits annexed to it that the petitioner is not entitled to relief in the district court.” In the
2 instant case, it is plain that petitioner is not entitled to federal habeas relief.

3 This court may “entertain an application for a writ of habeas corpus in behalf of a
4 person in custody pursuant to the judgment of a State Court only on the ground that he is in
5 custody in violation of the Constitution or laws or treaties of the United States.” 28 U.S.C. §
6 2254(a). Principles of comity and federalism require that this court abstain and not entertain
7 Petitioner’s pre-conviction habeas challenge unless he shows that: (1) he has exhausted available
8 state judicial remedies, and (2) “special circumstances” warrant federal intervention. See Carden
9 v. Montana, 626 F.2d 82, 83-84 (9th Cir.1980). Only in cases of proven harassment or
10 prosecutions undertaken by state officials in bad faith without hope of obtaining a valid
11 conviction and perhaps in other special circumstances where irreparable injury can be shown is
12 federal injunctive relief against pending state prosecutions appropriate. See id. at 84 (citing
13 Perez v. Ledesma, 401 U.S. 82, 85 (1971)).

14 In his petition, petitioner makes it clear he is still waiting trial on new charges for
15 murder of an inmate. He makes no showing of any “special circumstances” warranting federal
16 intervention before the trial is held and any appeal is completed. See id. He seems to question
17 the evidence being used against him, as well as the culpability of the prison staff and medical
18 staff. However, the allegations regarding the sufficiency of the evidence against him, and the
19 staff’s reaction to and/or responsibility for the death of the inmate, are issues best left to the trial
20 court. Thus, there is no sufficient showing of harassment or bad faith on the facts submitted in
21 the petition. In addition, petitioner makes it clear that he has not even attempted to exhausted his
22 state court remedies as to any of his claims.

23 Based on the foregoing, petitioner is required to show cause in writing, within 30
24 days of the date of this order, why his petition for a writ of habeas corpus should not be
25 summarily dismissed, without prejudice. Petitioner is warned that failure to respond to this order
26 may result in dismissal of the petition for the reasons outlined above, as well as for failure to

1 prosecute and comply with court rules and orders. See Local Rule 110. If petitioner agrees that
2 this action should be dismissed without prejudice to renewal following exhaustion of his claims
3 in state court, he should file a request for voluntary dismissal pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil
4 Procedure 41(a)(1).

5 Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

6 1. Petitioner's motion for leave to proceed in forma pauperis (Doc. 2) is
7 granted; and

8 2. Petitioner shall show cause in writing, within 30 days of the date of this
9 order, why his petition for a writ of habeas corpus should not be summarily dismissed.

10
11 DATED: November 18, 2014

12 
13 **CRAIG M. KELLISON**
14 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26