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Good cause appearing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that: 1. Petitioner's request to file a late motion to proceed in forma pauperis, ECF No. 8, is granted. 2. Petitioner's motion to proceed in forma pauperis, ECF No. 9, is granted. 3. The Clerk of Court is directed to refund petitioner his filing fee in the amount of \$5.00. 4. The Clerk of Court is also directed to send petitioner, together with a copy of this order, a copy of respondent's motion to dismiss (7 pages), ECF No. 12. 5. Within twenty-one (21) days after service of this order, petitioner shall file and serve an opposition or statement of non-opposition to respondent's pending motion to dismiss. 6. Petitioner's failure to comply with this order will result in a recommendation that this action be dismissed without prejudice for failure to prosecute, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b). DATED: March 13, 2017 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE