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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JAMES BELL,
Plaintiff,
v.
FRANK PENNY LAW FIRM, et al.,
Defendants.

No. 2:16-cv-3051 JAM CKD PS

ORDER

Plaintiff is proceeding in this action pro se. Plaintiff has requested authority pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915 to proceed in forma pauperis. This proceeding was referred to this court by Local Rule 302(c)(21).

Plaintiff has submitted the affidavit required by § 1915(a) showing that plaintiff is unable to prepay fees and costs or give security for them. Accordingly, the request to proceed in forma pauperis will be granted. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a).

In the complaint, plaintiff complains about monies that were used from the settlement of a civil action arising out of an auto accident. The complaint, however, does not allege a basis for subject matter jurisdiction in this court. The federal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction. In the absence of a basis for federal jurisdiction, plaintiff's claims cannot proceed in this venue.

Because there is no basis for federal subject matter jurisdiction evident in the complaint, plaintiff

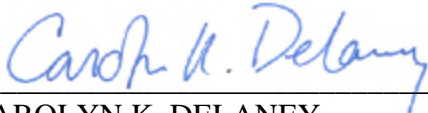
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1 will be ordered to show cause why this action should not be dismissed. Failure to allege a proper
2 basis for subject matter jurisdiction will result in a recommendation that the action be dismissed.

3 Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 4 1. Plaintiff's request to proceed in forma pauperis (ECF No. 2) is granted;
- 5 2. No later than January 20, 2017, plaintiff shall show cause why this action should not
6 be dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction.

7 Dated: January 6, 2017

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9 _____
10 CAROLYN K. DELANEY
11 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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