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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

MYLES LAMELL SHERMAN,  
Plaintiff,  
v.  
DEVON BELL,  
Defendant.

Case No. 2:20-cv-02284-JDP (PC)  
ORDER DIRECTING PLAINTIFF TO FILE A  
SIGNED COMPLAINT  
ECF No. 1

Plaintiff, an inmate at the Placer County Jail, is proceeding without counsel in this action brought under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. In addition to filing an application for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*, plaintiff has filed an unsigned complaint.

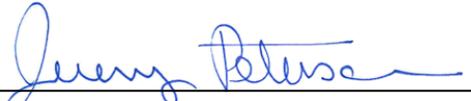
Federal courts must engage in a preliminary screening of cases in which prisoners seek redress from a governmental entity or an officer or employee of a governmental entity. 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a). The court must identify cognizable claims or dismiss the complaint, or any portion of the complaint, if the complaint “is frivolous, malicious, or fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted,” or “seeks monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief.” *Id.* § 1915A(b).

The court cannot conduct the required screening of plaintiff’s complaint because plaintiff has not signed it. *See* ECF No. 1. Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure requires that “[e]very pleading, written motion, and other paper . . . be signed by at least one attorney of record

1 in the attorney’s name—or by a party personally if the party is unrepresented.” Fed. R. Civ. P.  
2 11(a). Because plaintiff did not sign the complaint, ECF No. 1, it will be disregarded. Within  
3 thirty days, plaintiff may file a complaint that is signed. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 3 (“A civil action is  
4 commenced by filing a complaint with the court.”). Failure to comply with this order may result  
5 in an order closing this case.

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7 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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9 Dated: November 18, 2020

  
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JEREMY D. PETERSON  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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