1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 9 FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 PRINESSIA PEREZ, No. 2:21-CV-2028-KJM-DMC 12 Plaintiff. 13 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS v. 14 UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE, 15 Defendant. 16 17 Plaintiff, who is proceeding pro se, brings this civil action. Pending before the 18 Court are Defendant's unopposed motion to dismiss, ECF No. 5, and request to vacate, ECF No. 19 9. Through these motions, Defendant argues that Plaintiff fails to state a claim upon which this 20 court can grant relief and that the notice of removal should be "vacated" because Plaintiff 21 voluntarily dismissed her state court action prior to removal to this Court. 22 State court records, which this Court may judicially notice, see <u>Kasey v.</u> Molybdenum Corp. of America, 336 F.2d 560, 563 (9th Cir. 1964), reflect that Plaintiff 23 24 voluntarily dismissed the underlying state court action on October 14, 2021 – before Defendant filed its notice of removal on November 3, 2021. See ECF No. 9, pgs. 4-5. Because there was no 25 26 state action to remove at the time the notice of removal was filed, the state court action having 27 been voluntarily dismissed, the Court agrees with Defendant that the notice of removal filed on 28 the Court's docket no November 3, 2021, is a nullity. 1

The Court also agrees with Defendant that Plaintiff fails to state a claim. Here, Plaintiff alleges that Defendant United States Postal Service (USPS) is liable because she never received a federal stimulus check. See ECF No. 1. This claim is foreclosed by statute providing that USPS is not liable for any claims arising out of the "loss, miscarriage, or negligent transmission of letters or postal matter." 28 U.S.C. § 2680(b).

Based on the foregoing, the undersigned recommends that Defendant's unopposed motion, ECF No. 5, and request, ECF No. 9, be granted and that this action be dismissed.

These findings and recommendations are submitted to the United States District Judge assigned to the case, pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1). Within 14 days after being served with these findings and recommendations, any party may file written objections with the Court. Responses to objections shall be filed within 14 days after service of objections. Failure to file objections within the specified time may waive the right to appeal. See Martinez v. Ylst, 951 F.2d 1153 (9th Cir. 1991).

DENNIS M. COTA

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Dated: December 13, 2021