

United States District Court  
For the Northern District of California

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

TREMILE SAINT THOMPSON,	)	No. C 10-0413 MMC (PR)
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	<b>ORDER OF DISMISSAL</b>
	)	
v.	)	
	)	
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF	)	
CORRECTIONS AND	)	
REHABILITATION, SGT. WRIGHT,	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	
_____	)	

On January 28, 2010, plaintiff, a California prisoner incarcerated at San Quentin State Prison (“SQSP”) and proceeding pro se, filed the above-titled civil rights action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. By separate order filed concurrently herewith, plaintiff has been granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis.

**DISCUSSION**

A. Standard of Review

A federal court must conduct a preliminary screening in any case in which a prisoner seeks redress from a governmental entity or officer or employee of a governmental entity. See 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a). In its review, the court must identify any cognizable claims and dismiss any claims that are frivolous, malicious, fail to state a claim upon which relief may be granted or seek monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. See id. § 1915A(b)(1),(2). Pro se pleadings must, however, be liberally construed. See Balistreri v. Pacifica Police Dep’t, 901 F.2d 696, 699 (9th Cir. 1988).

1 To state a claim under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, a plaintiff must allege two essential  
2 elements: (1) that a right secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States was  
3 violated, and (2) that the alleged violation was committed by a person acting under the color  
4 of state law. See West v. Atkins, 487 U.S. 42, 48 (1988).

5 B. Plaintiff's Claim

6 Plaintiff claims that on December 14, 2009, at SQSP, defendant Sgt. Wright made  
7 sexually explicit and derogatory remarks over the prison's public address system about  
8 plaintiff's transgender/transsexual identity. Plaintiff seeks monetary damages in the amount  
9 of ten million dollars for having been slandered and treated disrespectfully by Wright.

10 Plaintiff's claim is subject to dismissal with prejudice as a matter of law, as allegations  
11 of verbal harassment and abuse fail to state a claim cognizable under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. See  
12 Freeman v. Arpaio, 125 F.3d 732, 738 (9th Cir. 1997). Such dismissal will be without leave  
13 to amend, as any amendment under the circumstances alleged herein would be futile. See  
14 Janicki Logging Co. v. Mateer, 42 F.3d 561, 566 (9th Cir. 1994) (holding leave to amend  
15 need not be granted where amendment constitutes exercise in futility).

16 **CONCLUSION**

17 For the reasons stated above, the complaint is hereby DISMISSED with prejudice and  
18 without leave to amend.

19 The Clerk shall close the file.

20 IT IS SO ORDERED.

21 DATED: April 23, 2010

22   
23 MAXINE M. CHESNEY  
24 United States District Judge  
25  
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