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To exhaust properly administrative remedies in California state prisons, inmates must proceed through a four-step process, which consists of (1) an informal attempt at resolution; (2) a first-level formal appeal; (3) a second-level appeal to the institution head; and (4) an appeal to the Director of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

See 15 Cal. Code Regs. § 3084.5.

Plaintiff admits that he has not exhausted his grievances prior to filing the instant action. Accordingly, the action is hereby DISMISSED without prejudice on grounds of nonexhaustion. Plaintiff may refile his action after having properly exhausted his claims through the inmate grievance procedure at his penal institution. The Clerk shall enter judgment in favor of defendants, and close the file.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: December 29, 2011

RICHARD SEEBORG United States District Judge