

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

JOHN RICHARD MARTINEZ,

No. C 12-6403 RS (PR)

Plaintiff,

ORDER OF SERVICE;

v.

**ORDER DIRECTING DEFENDANTS
TO FILE DISPOSITIVE MOTION OR
NOTICE REGARDING SUCH
MOTION;**

G. PIMENTEL, et al.,

INSTRUCTIONS TO CLERK

Defendants.

INTRODUCTION

This is a federal civil rights action filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 by a *pro se* state prisoner. Defendants are directed to file a dispositive motion or notice regarding such motion on or before July 15, 2013, unless an extension is granted. **The Court further directs that defendants are to adhere to the new notice provisions detailed in Sections 2.a and 10 of the conclusion of this order.**

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

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1 dismiss any claims that are frivolous, malicious, fail to state a claim upon which relief may
2 be granted or seek monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. *See id.*
3 § 1915A(b)(1),(2). *Pro se* pleadings must be liberally construed. *See Balistreri v. Pacifica*
4 *Police Dep't*, 901 F.2d 696, 699 (9th Cir. 1988).

5 A “complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to ‘state a claim
6 to relief that is plausible on its face.’” *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 129 S.Ct. 1937, 1949 (2009)
7 (quoting *Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007)). “A claim has facial
8 plausibility when the plaintiff pleads factual content that allows the court to draw the
9 reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged.” *Id.* (quoting
10 *Twombly*, 550 U.S. at 556). Furthermore, a court “is not required to accept legal conclusions
11 cast in the form of factual allegations if those conclusions cannot reasonably be drawn from
12 the facts alleged.” *Clegg v. Cult Awareness Network*, 18 F.3d 752, 754–55 (9th Cir. 1994).
13 To state a claim under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, a plaintiff must allege two essential elements: (1)
14 that a right secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States was violated, and (2)
15 that the alleged violation was committed by a person acting under the color of state law. *See*
16 *West v. Atkins*, 487 U.S. 42, 48 (1988).

17 **B. Legal Claims**

18 Plaintiff alleges that defendants, Matthew Cate, director of the CDCR, Greg Lewis,
19 Warden of Pelican Bay State Prison, and Pelican Bay correctional officers G. Pimentel and
20 W. Anthony, violated his First Amendment rights by confiscating, or allowing the
21 confiscation of, an outgoing letter. Liberally construed, this claim is cognizable under
22 § 1983.

23 **CONCLUSION**

24 For the foregoing reasons, the Court orders as follows:

25 1. The Clerk of the Court shall issue summons and the United States
26 Marshal shall serve, without prepayment of fees, a copy of the complaint in this matter, all
27 attachments thereto, and a copy of this order upon Pelican Bay correctional officers

1 G. Pimentel and W. Anthony, Matthew Cate, director of the CDCR, and Greg Lewis, Warden
2 of Pelican Bay. The Clerk shall also mail courtesy copies of the complaint and this order to
3 the California Attorney General's Office.

4 2. No later than ninety (90) days from the date of this order, defendants shall file a
5 motion for summary judgment or other dispositive motion with respect to the claims in the
6 complaint found to be cognizable above.

7 a. If defendants elect to file a motion to dismiss on the grounds plaintiff
8 failed to exhaust his available administrative remedies as required by 42 U.S.C. § 1997e(a),
9 defendants shall do so in an unenumerated Rule 12(b) motion pursuant to *Wyatt v. Terhune*,
10 315 F.3d 1108, 1119–20 (9th Cir. 2003), cert. denied *Alameida v. Terhune*, 540 U.S. 810
11 (2003).

12 b. Any motion for summary judgment shall be supported by adequate
13 factual documentation and shall conform in all respects to Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of
14 Civil Procedure. Defendants are advised that summary judgment cannot be granted, nor
15 qualified immunity found, if material facts are in dispute. If any defendant is of the opinion
16 that this case cannot be resolved by summary judgment, he shall so inform the Court prior to
17 the date the summary judgment motion is due.

18 3. Plaintiff's opposition to the dispositive motion shall be filed with the Court and
19 served on defendants no later than forty-five (45) days from the date defendants' motion is
20 filed.

21 a. In the event the defendants file an unenumerated motion to dismiss
22 under Rule 12(b), plaintiff is hereby cautioned as follows:

23 The defendants have made a motion to dismiss pursuant to Rule 12(b) of the
24 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, on the ground you have not exhausted your administrative
25 remedies. The motion will, if granted, result in the dismissal of your case. When a party you
26 are suing makes a motion to dismiss for failure to exhaust, and that motion is properly
27 supported by declarations (or other sworn testimony) and/or documents, you may not simply
28

1 rely on what your complaint says. Instead, you must set out specific facts in declarations,
2 depositions, answers to interrogatories, or documents, that contradict the facts shown in the
3 defendant's declarations and documents and show that you have in fact exhausted your
4 claims. If you do not submit your own evidence in opposition, the motion to dismiss, if
5 appropriate, may be granted and the case dismissed.

6 4. Defendants shall file a reply brief no later than fifteen (15) days after
7 plaintiff's opposition is filed.

8 5. The motion shall be deemed submitted as of the date the reply brief is due. No
9 hearing will be held on the motion unless the Court so orders at a later date.

10 6. All communications by the plaintiff with the Court must be served on
11 defendants, or defendants' counsel once counsel has been designated, by mailing a true copy
12 of the document to defendants or defendants' counsel.

13 7. Discovery may be taken in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil
14 Procedure. No further court order under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30(a)(2) or Local
15 Rule 16-1 is required before the parties may conduct discovery.

16 8. It is plaintiff's responsibility to prosecute this case. Plaintiff must keep the
17 court informed of any change of address and must comply with the court's orders in a timely
18 fashion. Failure to do so may result in the dismissal of this action for failure to prosecute
19 pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b).

20 9. Extensions of time must be filed no later than the deadline sought to be
21 extended and must be accompanied by a showing of good cause.

22 10. A recent decision from the Ninth Circuit requires that *pro se* prisoner-plaintiffs
23 be given "notice of what is required of them in order to oppose" summary judgment motions
24 at the time of filing of the motions, rather than when the court orders service of process or
25 otherwise before the motions are filed. *Woods v. Carey*, No. 09-15548, slip op. 7871, 7874
26 (9th Cir. July 6, 2012). **Defendants shall provide the following notice to plaintiff when**
27 **they file and serve any motion for summary judgment:**

28

The defendants have made a motion for summary judgment by which they seek to have your case dismissed. A motion for summary judgment under Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure will, if granted, end your case.

Rule 56 tells you what you must do in order to oppose a motion for summary judgment. Generally, summary judgment must be granted when there is no genuine issue of material fact — that is, if there is no real dispute about any fact that would affect the result of your case, the party who asked for summary judgment is entitled to judgment as a matter of law, which will end your case. When a party you are suing makes a motion for summary judgment that is properly supported by declarations (or other sworn testimony), you cannot simply rely on what your complaint says. Instead, you must set out specific facts in declarations, depositions, answers to interrogatories, or authenticated documents, as provided in Rule 56(e), that contradict the facts shown in the defendants' declarations and documents and show that there is a genuine issue of material fact for trial. If you do not submit your own evidence in opposition, summary judgment, if appropriate, may be entered against you. If summary judgment is granted, your case will be dismissed and there will be no trial.

Rand v. Rowland, 154 F.3d 952, 962–63 (9th Cir. 1998).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: April 15, 2013


RICHARD SEEBORG
United States District Judge