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

WHITTIER BUCK BUCHANAN,

No. C 17-5167 WHA (PR)

Plaintiff,

ORDER OF SERVICE

v.

GREGORY J. AHERN; P.
KENNEDY; LANCE E.
DELBRIDGE; P.H. SLAUGHTER; J.
McCOMAS; DEPUTY AARON;
NEENA C. THOMAS; NURSE
KELLOG; NURSE MAGAAT;
CALIFORNIA FORENSIC
MEDICAL GROUP;

Defendants.

INTRODUCTION

Plaintiff, an inmate at the Santa Rita Jail in Dublin, California, filed this pro se civil rights case under 42 U.S.C. 1983 alleging that defendants — officials at Santa Rita and the Alameda County Sheriff's Department, as well as the medical group contracted to provide medical services at the jail — violated his constitutional rights. He is granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis in a separate order. For the reasons discussed below, the complaint is ordered served upon defendants.

ANALYSIS

A. STANDARD OF REVIEW

Federal courts must engage in a preliminary screening of cases in which prisoners seek

1 redress from a governmental entity or officer or employee of a governmental entity. 28 U.S.C.
2 1915A(a). In its review the court must identify any cognizable claims, and dismiss any claims
3 which are frivolous, malicious, fail to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, or seek
4 monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. *Id.* at 1915A(b)(1),(2). Pro
5 se pleadings must be liberally construed. *Balistreri v. Pacifica Police Dep't*, 901 F.2d 696, 699
6 (9th Cir. 1990).

7 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a)(2) requires only "a short and plain statement of the
8 claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief." "Specific facts are not necessary; the
9 statement need only "give the defendant fair notice of what the . . . claim is and the grounds
10 upon which it rests." *Erickson v. Pardus*, 127 S. Ct. 2197, 2200 (2007) (citations omitted).
11 Although in order to state a claim a complaint "does not need detailed factual allegations, . . . a
12 plaintiff's obligation to provide the 'grounds of his 'entitle[ment] to relief' requires more than
13 labels and conclusions, and a formulaic recitation of the elements of a cause of action will not
14 do. . . . Factual allegations must be enough to raise a right to relief above the speculative
15 level." *Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly*, 127 S. Ct. 1955, 1964-65 (2007) (citations omitted). A
16 complaint must proffer "enough facts to state a claim for relief that is plausible on its face." *Id.*
17 at 1974.

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

22 **B. LEGAL CLAIMS**

23 Plaintiff alleges that he is a disabled inmate who was struck by another inmate, causing
24 damage to plaintiff's ear and ankle. He alleges that defendants were deliberately indifferent to
25 his safety and to his medical needs stemming from that incident and from his disabilities.
26 Plaintiff also alleges that defendants retaliated against him for filing inmate grievances and
27 lawsuits. When liberally construed, plaintiff's allegations state cognizable claims for the
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1 violation of plaintiff's rights under the First Amendment, the Fourteenth Amendment, and the
2 Eighth Amendment.

3 **CONCLUSION**

4 For the reasons set out above, it is hereby ordered as follows:

5 1. The clerk shall issue summons and the United States Marshal shall serve, without
6 prepayment of fees, a copy of the complaint with all attachments thereto, and a copy of this order
7 upon defendants **Sheriff Gregory J. Ahern; Sergeant P. Kennedy; Lieutenant Lance E.**
8 **Delbridge; Lieutenant P.H. Slaughter; Lieutenant J. McComas; Deputy Aaron; Nurse**
9 **Practitioner Neena C. Thomas; Nurse Practitioner Kellog; Nurse Practitioner Magaat; the**
10 **California Forensic Medical Group at the Santa Rita County Jail or the Alameda County**
11 **Sheriff's Department.** A copy of the complaint with attachments and this order shall also be
12 mailed to the Alameda County Counsel's Office.

13 2. Defendants **shall** file an answer in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil
14 Procedure.

15 3. In order to expedite the resolution of this case:

16 a. No later than **91 days** from the date this order is filed, defendant shall file a
17 motion for summary judgment or other dispositive motion. If defendant is of the opinion that
18 this case cannot be resolved by summary judgment, he shall so inform the court prior to the date
19 the summary judgment motion is due. All papers filed with the court shall be promptly served on
20 the plaintiff.

21 b. Plaintiff's opposition to the dispositive motion, if any, shall be filed with the
22 court and served upon defendant no later than **28 days** from the date of service of the motion.
23 Plaintiff must read the attached page headed "NOTICE -- WARNING," which is provided to
24 him pursuant to *Rand v. Rowland*, 154 F.3d 952, 953-954 (9th Cir. 1998) (en banc), and
25 *Klinge v. Eikenberry*, 849 F.2d 409, 411-12 (9th Cir. 1988).

26 c. Defendant **shall** file a reply brief no later than **14 days** after the date of service
27 of the opposition.

1 d. The motion shall be deemed submitted as of the date the reply brief is due. No
2 hearing will be held on the motion unless the court so orders at a later date.

3 e. Along with his motion, defendant shall proof that they served plaintiff the
4 *Rand* warning at the same time they served him with their motion. Failure to do so will result
5 in the summary dismissal of their motion.


6 4. All communications by the plaintiff with the court must be served on defendant, or
7 defendant's counsel once counsel has been designated, by mailing a true copy of the document to
8 defendant or defendant's counsel.

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

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

16 IT IS SO ORDERED.

17 Dated: October 23, 2017.

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20 WILLIAM ALSUP
21 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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NOTICE -- WARNING (SUMMARY JUDGMENT)

If defendants move for summary judgment, they are seeking 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 [current Rule 56(c)], that contradict the facts shown in the defendant's 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.