

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
2 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

3  
4 RUCHELL C. MAGEE,  
5 Plaintiff,

6 v.

7 CANTIL-SAKAUYE, et al.,  
8 Defendants.

Case No. [21-cv-05432-WHO](#) (PR)

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE**

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10 Plaintiff Ruchell Cinque Magee, a state prisoner and frequent litigant in federal  
11 court, has filed this federal civil rights action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 along with a motion  
12 to proceed *in forma pauperis* (IFP) under 28 U.S.C. § 1915.<sup>1</sup> **Magee is ordered to show**  
13 **cause on or before September 1, 2021 why 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g) does not bar pauper**  
14 **status in this action.**

15 A prisoner may not bring a civil action or appeal a civil judgment under 28 U.S.C.  
16 § 1915 “if the prisoner has, on 3 or more prior occasions, while incarcerated or detained in  
17 any facility, brought an action or appeal in a court of the United States that was dismissed  
18 on the grounds that it is frivolous, malicious, or fails to state a claim upon which relief may  
19 be granted, unless the prisoner is under imminent danger of serious physical injury.”  
20 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g). Relying on the statute’s command that “*in no event*” may such a  
21 prisoner proceed, the Ninth Circuit explained that this bar is triggered by a prisoner’s  
22 history of filing frivolous litigation rather than by the merits of the current action. *See El-*  
23 *Shaddai v. Zamora*, 833 F.3d 1036, 1042 (9th Cir. 2016) (emphasis in original).

24 Under the law of this circuit, plaintiff must be afforded an opportunity to persuade  
25 the Court that section 1915(g) does not bar pauper status for him. *See Andrews v. King*,

26  
27 <sup>1</sup> In his complaint, Magee alleges Tani Cantil-Sakauye, the Chief Justice of California,  
28 hindered his access to the courts. He also alleges Gavin Newsom, the Governor of  
California, refused to acknowledge Magee’s applications for a pardon and concealed  
evidence of false convictions. (Compl., Dkt. No. 1 at 4, 7.)

1 398 F.3d 1113, 1120 (9th Cir. 2005). *Andrews* requires that the prisoner be given notice of  
2 the potential applicability of section 1915(g), by either the district court or the defendants,  
3 but also requires the prisoner to bear the ultimate burden of persuasion that section 1915(g)  
4 does not bar pauper status for him. *Id.* *Andrews* implicitly allows the Court to raise *sua*  
5 *sponte* the section 1915(g) problem, but requires the Court to notify the prisoner of the  
6 earlier dismissals it considers to support a section 1915(g) dismissal and allow the prisoner  
7 an opportunity to be heard on the matter before dismissing the action. *Id.* A dismissal  
8 under section 1915(g) means that a prisoner cannot proceed with his action as a pauper  
9 under section 1915(g), but he still may pursue his claims if he pays the full filing fee at the  
10 outset of the action.

11 Here, Magee has had at least three prior prisoner actions or appeals dismissed  
12 by a federal court on the grounds that they are frivolous, malicious, or that they failed to  
13 state a claim upon which relief may be granted:

14 (1) *Magee v. Scott*, No. 05-CV-348 AWI LJO (E.D. Cal. Mar. 6, 2016) (order  
15 adopting report and recommendation dismissing case for failing to file amended complaint  
16 and failing to state a cognizable claim);

17 (2) *Magee v. Bravo*, No. 03-CV-6764 LJO WMW (E.D. Cal. July 23, 2007) (order  
18 adopting report and recommendation dismissing case for failing to state a cognizable  
19 claim);

20 (3) *Magee v. Ortega*, No. 00-CV-1512 GEB GGH (E.D. Cal. Apr. 22, 2002) (order  
21 adopting report and recommendation dismissing case for failing to file amended  
22 complaint);

23 (4) *Magee v. Meyer*, No. 95-CV-03855 DLJ (PR) (N.D. Cal. Mar. 27, 1996)  
24 (dismissed as malicious);

25 (5) *Magee v. Jensen*, No. 95-CV-2520 DLJ (PR) (N.D. Cal. July 20, 1995)  
26 (dismissed as malicious and duplicative);

27 (6) *Magee v. Reardon*, No. 94-CV-3815 DLJ (PR) (N.D. Cal. March 17, 1995)  
28 (dismissed as malicious);

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1 (7) *Magee v. Jensen*, No. C 94-CV-2711 DLJ, (N.D. Cal. Aug. 31, 1994) (dismissed  
2 as frivolous);

3 (8) *Magee v. Foreman Federal Grand Jury*, No. 94-CV-4298 DLJ (PR) (N.D. Cal.  
4 March 16, 1995) (dismissed as malicious);

5 (9) *Magee v. Romines*, No. 93-CV-3638 DLJ (PR) (N.D. Cal. June 9, 1994)  
6 (dismissed for failing to state a cognizable claim); and

7 (10) *Magee v. Helsel*, No. C 93-CV-3507 DLJ (N.D. Cal. June 9, 1994) (dismissal  
8 as duplicative of claims adjudicated in a prior suit).

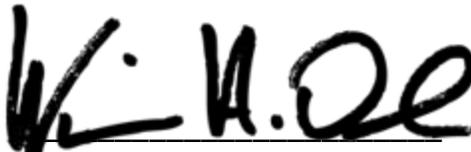
9 In light of these dismissals, and because Magee does not appear to be under  
10 imminent danger of serious physical injury, the Court now orders him to show cause why  
11 IFP status should not be denied and these actions should not be dismissed pursuant to  
12 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

13 Magee's response to this order to show cause is due no later than **September 1,**  
14 **2021**. The response must clearly be labeled "RESPONSE TO ORDER TO SHOW  
15 CAUSE." In the alternative to showing cause why this action should not be dismissed,  
16 Magee may avoid dismissal by paying the full filing fee of \$402.00 by the deadline.

17 Failure to file a response by **September 1, 2021**, or failure to pay the full filing fee  
18 by that date, will result in the dismissal of this action without prejudice to plaintiff bringing  
19 his claims in a new paid complaint.

20 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

21 **Dated:** July 19, 2021

22   
23 WILLIAM H. ORRICK  
24 United States District Judge  
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