Streeter v. County of Santa Clara Department of Corrections et al

1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2	FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
3	EDDIE J. STREETER, JR.,) No. C 04-3969 CW (PR)
4	/ Plaintiff,) ORDER DIRECTING DEFENDANTS TO) FILE RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFF'S
5	v.) REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION
6	COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA, ET AL.,
7	Defendants.

9 Plaintiff Eddie J. Streeter, Jr., a state prisoner, filed this
10 civil rights action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 alleging violations of
11 his constitutional rights when he was incarcerated at the Santa
12 Clara County Main Jail. In September, 2006, the parties reached a
13 confidential settlement agreement. A Stipulation and Order
14 Dismissing the Case was signed by all parties, and the case was
15 dismissed with prejudice on September 20, 2006.

16 Before the Court is Plaintiff's motion entitled, "Ex Parte 17 Motion (Breach of Contract)." He has also filed a document 18 entitled, "Writ Mandate Re: Payment Order (Breach of Contract)." 19 Plaintiff claims that he had agreed to a sum of \$49,600.00. He 20 claims that he became suspicious a few years ago after not having 21 received his settlement check. He also alleges he wrote four 22 separate letters over the past four years in an attempt to receive 23 his settlement payment. He claims that Defendants' insurance 24 company sent a check in the amount of \$46,000.00 to his home 25 address and made it payable to his father, "Eddie J. Streeter Sr." 26 Plaintiff argues that this is a breach of their settlement 27 It seems that Plaintiff's father cashed the check, agreement. 28 claiming that it was in his name and for his personal use.

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Plaintiff is now attempting to reclaim his settlement payment
 because he will soon be released from prison. The Court construes
 Plaintiff's motion as a request for reconsideration.

Where the Court's ruling has resulted in a final judgment or order, as here, a motion for reconsideration may be based either on Rule 59(e) (motion to alter or amend judgment) or Rule 60(b) (motion for relief from judgment) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Because Plaintiff's motion was not filed within ten days of entry of judgment, as is required for a Rule 59(e) motion, it will be treated as a Rule 60(b) motion.

11 Rule 60(b) provides for reconsideration where one or more of 12 the following is shown: (1) mistake, inadvertence, surprise or 13 excusable neglect; (2) newly discovered evidence which by due 14 diligence could not have been discovered before the Court's 15 decision; (3) fraud by the adverse party; (4) the judgment is void; 16 (5) the judgment has been satisfied; (6) any other reason 17 justifying relief. Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(b); School Dist. 1J v. 18 <u>ACandS Inc.</u>, 5 F.3d 1255, 1263 (9th Cir. 1993). "Rule 60(b) [] 19 provides a mechanism for parties to seek relief from a judgment 20 when 'it is no longer equitable that the judgment should have 21 prospective application, ' or when there is any other reason 22 justifying relief from judgment." Jeff D. v. Kempthorne, 365 F.3d 23 844, 853-54 (9th Cir. 2004) (quoting Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(b)).

Subparagraph (6) requires a showing that the grounds justifying relief are extraordinary. "'[T]he major grounds that justify reconsideration involve an intervening change of controlling law, the availability of new evidence, or the need to correct a clear error or prevent manifest injustice.'" <u>Pyramid</u>

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1 <u>Lake Paiute Tribe of Indians v. Hodel</u>, 882 F.2d 364, 369 n.5 (9th 2 Cir. 1989) (quoting <u>United States v. Desert Gold Mining Co.</u>, 433 3 F.2d 713, 715 (9th Cir. 1970)).

4 Here, Plaintiff seems to be making a motion for 5 reconsideration under Rule 60(b)(6), which, as mentioned above, 6 allows cases to be reopened under "extraordinary circumstances," 7 including where the repudiation of a settlement agreement resulted 8 in complete frustration of the settlement and circumstances 9 indicate bad faith noncompliance with the settlement. Before the Court considers Plaintiff's motion, it directs Defendants to file a 10 11 response to his request for reconsideration.

No later than <u>three (3) days</u> from the date of this Order, Defendants shall file a response to Plaintiff's "Ex Parte Motion (Breach of Contract)" (docket no. 73) and his "Writ Mandate Re: Payment Order (Breach of Contract)" (docket no. 74).

If Plaintiff wishes to reply to Defendants' response, he shall do so no later than <u>fourteen (14) days</u> from the date Defendants' response is filed.

19 The motion for reconsideration shall be deemed submitted as of 20 the date the reply brief is due. No hearing will be held on the 21 motion unless the Court so orders at a later date.

The Clerk of the Court is directed to send Defendants' attorney copies of the documents mentioned above (docket nos. 73, 74).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

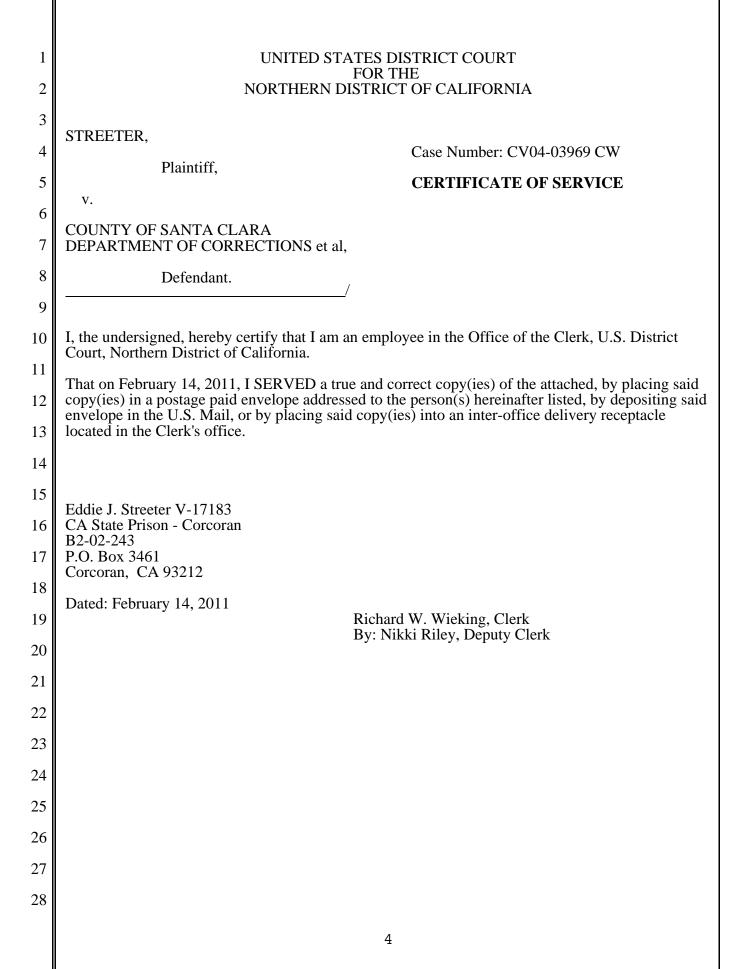
26 DATED: 2/14/2011

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CLAUDIA WILKEN United States District Judge



United States District Court For the Northern District of California