

United States District Court
Northern District of California

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JACOB SILVERMAN,
Plaintiff,
v.
HUMBOLDT COUNTY CORRECTIONAL
FACILITY, et al.,
Defendants.

Case No. [17-cv-01140-KAW](#) (PR)

**ORDER DIRECTING SERVICE OF
SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT ON
ADDITIONAL DEFENDANT; NEW
BRIEFING SCHEDULE FOR ALL
DEFENDANTS**

In previous orders, the Court found that, liberally construed, the allegations in Plaintiff’s complaint appeared to give rise to cognizable claims under the Free Exercise Clause and the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (“RLUIPA”) against Humboldt County Correctional Facility Lieutenant Christian, Humboldt County Sheriff Honsal, in his official capacity, and Eddy R. Reyes. These defendants have been served but have not filed a dispositive motion.

On May 21, 2018, Plaintiff moved to amend his complaint to add Lieutenant Flint as a defendant. Defendants did not file an opposition. On July 18, 2018, the Court granted Plaintiff’s motion and allowed him 28 days in which to file a Second Amended Complaint (“SAC”). On July 26, 2018, Plaintiff filed a SAC, which the Court now reviews.

DISCUSSION

I. Preliminary Review of SAC

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. 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a). In its review, the court must identify any cognizable claims and dismiss any claims that are frivolous, malicious, fail to state a claim upon which relief may be granted or seek

1 monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. *Id.* § 1915A(b)(1), (2). *Pro se*
2 pleadings must be liberally construed. *Balistreri v. Pacifica Police Dep't*, 901 F.2d 696, 699 (9th
3 Cir. 1988).

4 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a)(2) requires only “a short and plain statement of the
5 claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief.” “Specific facts are not necessary; the
6 statement need only “give the defendant fair notice of what the . . . claim is and the grounds upon
7 which it rests.” *Erickson v. Pardus*, 551 U.S. 89, 93 (2007).

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

12 Liability may be imposed on an individual defendant under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 if the
13 plaintiff can show that the defendant’s actions both actually and proximately caused the
14 deprivation of a federally protected right. *Lemire v. Cal. Dept. Corrections & Rehabilitation*, 756
15 F.3d 1062, 1074 (9th Cir. 2013); *Leer v. Murphy*, 844 F.2d 628, 634 (9th Cir. 1988). A person
16 deprives another of a constitutional right within the meaning of section 1983 if he does an
17 affirmative act, participates in another's affirmative act or omits to perform an act which he is
18 legally required to do, that causes the deprivation of which the plaintiff complains. *Id.* at 633.

19 **II. Plaintiff’s New Allegations**

20 The SAC contains the following new allegations:

21 Lt. Flint is not allowing Plaintiff to receive the required kosher diet and has customized the
22 required diet to one that fits Lt. Flint’s standards. Sheriff Downey, who retired in mid-2017, did
23 not enact a policy to deliver kosher meals to jail inmates.

24 Liberally construed, the allegations appear to state cognizable claims under the Free
25 Exercise Clause and RLUIPA against Lt. Flint. However, because Sheriff Honsal, in his official
26 capacity, is already a defendant based upon his failure to implement a policy allowing designated
27 inmates to have a kosher diet, it is not necessary for retired Sheriff Downey, in his official
28 capacity, to also be a defendant. Therefore, any claims against Sheriff Downey are dismissed.

1 **CONCLUSION**

2 1. Any claims against retired Sheriff Downey, in his official capacity, are dismissed with
3 prejudice. Liberally construed, the new allegations in the SAC appear to give rise to cognizable
4 claims under the Free Exercise Clause and RLUIPA against Lt. Flint.

5 2. The Clerk of the Court shall mail a Notice of Lawsuit and Request for Waiver of
6 Service of Summons, two copies of the Waiver of Service of Summons, copies of the amended
7 complaint (docket no. 9), and the SAC (docket no. 43), the Order of Service (docket no. 13), the
8 Order of Service on Unserved Defendant (docket no. 19), this Order and the form “Consent or
9 Declination to Magistrate Judge Jurisdiction” to Lt. Flint at the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office.
10 This form can also be found at www.cand.uscourts.gov/civilforms. The Clerk shall also mail a
11 copy of the aforementioned documents to the Office of the Humboldt County Counsel, and a copy
12 of this Order to Plaintiff.

13 3. Defendant is cautioned that Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure requires him
14 to cooperate in saving unnecessary costs of service of the summons and complaint. Pursuant to
15 Rule 4, if Defendant, after being notified of this action and asked by the Court, on behalf of
16 Plaintiff, to waive service of the summons, fails to do so, he will be required to bear the cost of
17 such service unless good cause be shown for his failure to sign and return the waiver forms. If
18 service is waived, this action will proceed as if Defendant had been served on the date that the
19 waiver is filed, except that pursuant to Rule 12(a)(1)(B), Defendant will not be required to serve
20 and file an answer before **sixty** days from the date on which the request for waiver was sent. (This
21 allows a longer time to respond than would be required if formal service of summons is
22 necessary.)

23 Defendant is advised to read the statement set forth at the foot of the waiver form that more
24 completely describes the duties of the parties with regard to waiver of service of the summons. If
25 service is waived after the date provided in the Notice but before Defendant has been personally
26 served, the answer shall be due **sixty** days from the date on which the request for waiver was sent
27 or **twenty** days from the date the waiver form is filed, whichever is later.

28 4. Defendant shall file his Consent or Declination to Magistrate Judge Jurisdiction on or

1 before the date his answer is due.

2 5. The following briefing schedule shall govern dispositive motions in this action:

3 a. **No later than thirty days from the date Lt. Flint's answer is due, all**

4 **Defendants** shall file a combined motion for summary judgment or other dispositive motion. If
5 Defendants file a motion for summary judgment, it shall be supported by adequate factual
6 documentation and shall conform in all respects to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 56. If
7 Defendants are of the opinion that this case cannot be resolved by summary judgment, they shall
8 so inform the Court prior to the date the summary judgment motion is due. All papers filed with
9 the Court shall be promptly served on Plaintiff.

10 At the time of filing the motion for summary judgment or other dispositive motion,
11 Defendants shall comply with the Ninth Circuit's decision in *Woods v. Carey*, 684 F.3d 934 (9th
12 Cir. 2012), and provide Plaintiff with notice of what is required of him to oppose a summary
13 judgment motion. If the motion is based on non-exhaustion of administrative remedies,
14 Defendants must comply with the notice and procedural requirements in *Albino v. Baca*, 747 F.3d
15 1162 (9th Cir. 2014). *See Stratton v. Buck*, 697 F.3d 1004, 1008 (9th Cir. 2012).

16 b. Plaintiff's opposition to the motion for summary judgment or other dispositive
17 motion shall be filed with the Court and served on Defendants no later than **twenty-eight** days after
18 the date on which Defendants' motion is filed. The Ninth Circuit has held that the following notice
19 should be given to *pro se* plaintiffs facing a summary judgment motion:

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

23 Rule 56 tells you what you must do in order to oppose a motion for summary judgment.
24 Generally, summary judgment must be granted when there is no genuine issue of material
25 fact -- that is, if there is no real dispute about any fact that would affect the result of your
26 case, the party who asked for summary judgment is entitled to judgment as a matter of law,
27 which will end your case. When a party you are suing makes a motion for summary
28 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 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

1 entered against you. If summary judgment is granted [in favor of the defendants], your
2 case will be dismissed and there will be no trial.

3 *Rand v. Rowland*, 154 F.3d 952, 962-63 (9th Cir. 1998) (en banc).

4 Before filing his opposition, Plaintiff is advised to read the notice that will be provided to
5 him by Defendants when the motion is filed, and Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure
6 and *Celotex Corp. v. Catrett*, 477 U.S. 317 (1986) (party opposing summary judgment must come
7 forward with evidence showing triable issues of material fact on every essential element of his
8 claim). Plaintiff is cautioned that because he bears the burden of proving his allegations in this
9 case, he must be prepared to produce evidence in support of those allegations when he files his
10 opposition to Defendants' summary judgment motion. Such evidence may include sworn
11 declarations from himself and other witnesses to the incident, and copies of documents
12 authenticated by sworn declaration. Plaintiff will not be able to avoid summary judgment simply
13 by repeating the allegations of his complaint.

14 The same evidentiary requirement applies if Defendants file a motion for summary
15 judgment for failure to exhaust administrative remedies. To oppose this motion, Plaintiff must
16 present any evidence he may have which tends to show that he did exhaust administrative
17 remedies or was excused from doing so. Again, the evidence may be in the form of declarations,
18 that is statements of fact from himself or other witnesses signed under penalty of perjury, copies of
19 documents accompanied by a declaration showing where they came from and why they are
20 authentic, or discovery documents such as answers to interrogatories or depositions. In
21 considering a summary judgment motion for failure to exhaust administrative remedies, the Court
22 can decide disputed issues of fact with regard to this portion of the case. *See generally Albino*,
23 747 F.3d at 1172-73; *Stratton*, 697 F.3d at 1008.

24 c. Defendants **shall** file a reply brief no later than **fourteen** days after the date
25 Plaintiff's opposition is filed.

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

28 6. Discovery may be taken in this action in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil
Procedure. No further court order pursuant to Rule 30(a)(2) or Local Rule 16 is required before

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

the parties may conduct discovery.

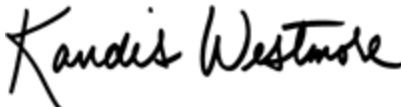
7. All communications by Plaintiff with the Court must be served on Defendants, or Defendants' counsel, by mailing a true copy of the document to Defendants or their counsel.

8. It is Plaintiff's responsibility to prosecute this case. He must keep the Court informed of any change of address and must comply with the Court's orders in a timely fashion.

9. Extensions of time are not favored, though reasonable extensions will be granted. Any motion for an extension of time must be filed no later than **three** days prior to the deadline sought to be extended.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: July 31, 2018



KANDIS A. WESTMORE
United States Magistrate Judge