

United States District Court
For the Northern District of California

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

MICHAEL ALLEN STERNI,

Plaintiff,

v.

NAPA STATE HOSPITAL, et al.,

Defendants.

No. C 12-5145 RMW (PR)

ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFF'S
REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT OF
COUNSEL

(Docket No. 5)

Plaintiff, proceeding pro se, filed a civil rights complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Plaintiff filed a request for counsel. (Doc. No. 5.) Plaintiff's request for counsel is **DENIED** for want of exceptional circumstances. See Rand v. Rowland, 113 F.3d 1520, 1525 (9th Cir. 1997); see also Lassiter v. Dep't of Social Services, 452 U.S. 18, 25 (1981) (there is no constitutional right to counsel in a civil case). The court has not yet screened plaintiff's complaint to determine if he has alleged a cognizable claim for relief. This denial is without prejudice to the court's sua sponte appointment of counsel at a future date should the circumstances of this case warrant such appointment.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: _____

RONALD M. WHYTE
United States District Judge