Sandoval v. Enriquez Doc. 4 1 2 3 4 5 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 6 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 7 8 9 Grace L. Sandoval, CASE NO. 09cv2895 WQH (JMA) Plaintiff, **ORDER** 10 VS. 11 Christina R. Enriquez, 12 Defendant. HAYES, Judge: 13 The matters before the Court are Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to Proceed In Forma 14 Pauperis (Doc. # 2) and Motion to Appoint Counsel (Doc. # 3). 15 **BACKGROUND** 16 17 On December 24, 2009, Plaintiff Grace R. Sandoval, a nonprisoner proceeding pro se, initiated this action by filing her Complaint. (Doc. #1). Also on December 24, 2009, Plaintiff 18 filed her Motion for Leave to Proceed In Forma Pauperis ("IFP") (Doc. # 2) and her Motion 19 for Appointment of Counsel (Doc. #3). 20 21 **ANALYSIS** I. **Motion to Proceed IFP** 22 All parties instituting any civil action, suit, or proceeding in a district court of the 23 United States, except an application for a writ of habeas corpus, must pay a filing fee of \$350. 24 25 See 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a). An action may proceed despite a plaintiff's failure to prepay the entire fee only if the plaintiff is granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis pursuant to 28 26 U.S.C. § 1915(a). See Rodriguez v. Cook, 169 F.3d 1176, 1177 (9th Cir. 2009). 27 In her affidavit accompanying the Motion to Proceed IFP, Plaintiff states that she is not 28

employed. (Doc. # 2 at 2). Plaintiff states she was last employed in August of 2009 earning \$86 per shift at Safe Haven Home Care in El Centro, California. *Id.* Plaintiff states she has no income except for unemployment insurance payments of \$40 per week. *Id.* Plaintiff states she has a checking account with a balance of \$300.00 and no savings. *Id.* Plaintiff states she owns a 2002 Honda Civic and does not have any other significant assets such as real estate, stocks, bonds, or securities. *Id.* Plaintiff states she owes \$5,000.00 to the "United States Department of Education" and \$854.00 to "Mutual Management Services." *Id.* The Court has reviewed Plaintiff's affidavit of assets and finds that it is sufficient to show that Plaintiff is unable to pay the fees or post securities required to maintain this action. The Court grants the Motion to Proceed IFP pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915.

II. Initial Screening Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)

After granting IFP status, the Court must dismiss the case if the case "fails to state a claim on which relief may be granted" or is "frivolous." 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B).

The standard used to evaluate whether a complaint should be dismissed is a liberal one, particularly when the action has been filed pro se. *See Estelle v. Gamble*, 429 U.S. 97, 97 (1976). However, even a "liberal interpretation . . . may not supply elements of the claim that were not initially pled." *Ivey v. Bd. of Regents of the Univ. of Alaska*, 673 F.2d 266, 268 (9th Cir. 1982).

A complaint "is frivolous where it lacks an arguable basis either in law or fact. [The] term 'frivolous,' when applied to the complaint, embraces not only the inarguable legal conclusion, but also the fanciful factual allegation." *Neitzke v. Williams*, 490 U.S. 319, 325 (1989); *see also Martin v. Sias*, 88 F.3d 774, 775 (9th Cir. 1996). When determining whether a complaint is frivolous, the Court need not accept the factual allegations as true, but must "pierce the veil of the complaint," to determine if the allegations are "fanciful," "fantastic," or "delusional." *Denton v. Hernandez*, 504 U.S. 25, 32-33 (1992) (quoting *Neitzke*, 490 U.S. at 327-28).

The following is an example of the Complaint's allegations:

Christina Enriquez demands illegals to attack me, Grace L. Sandoval, also known as Grace L. Sali, Lupe Graciela Sandoval, to rape me, Grace L. Sandoval,

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to force pregnancy, to steal everything in my home owned. Christina Enriquez demands illegals, drug addicts to vandalize my car . . . to murder me, Grace L. Sandoval, for my legal documents she has used, stolen, for many illegals from Mexicali, Mexico, including her many part brothers and sisters that lived in La Mesa Prison, Tijuana, Mexico and do not have the legal right to live in the United States and do not have an education.

(Doc. # 1 at 1-2).

The Complaint is entirely comprised of incomprehensible, often fantastic allegations similar to the example quoted above. The complaint does not allege any legal basis under which Plaintiff is entitled to relief. The allegations in the complaint are insufficient to put Defendant on notice of the claims against her, as required by Rule 8 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The Court finds that Plaintiff fails to state a claim on which relief can be granted. The Court dismisses the Complaint as frivolous pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(I).

III. Appointment of Counsel

In light of the Court's sua sponte dismissal of this action, Plaintiff's request for appointment of counsel is denied as moot.

CONCLUSION

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Motion for Leave to Proceed in Forma Pauperis (Doc. # 2) is **GRANTED**. The Complaint is **DISMISSED** without prejudice, and this case shall be closed. The Motion to Appoint Counsel (Doc. # 3) is **DENIED** as moot.

DATED: January 6, 2010

WILLIAM Q. HAYES
United States District Judge

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¹ Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8 provides: "A pleading that states a claim for relief must contain: (1) a short and plain statement of the grounds for the court's jurisdiction...; (2) a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief; and (3) a demand for the relief sought...." Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a). Rule 8(d) provides that "[e]ach allegation must be simple, concise, and direct." Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(d).