1 2 3 4 5 6 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 8 9 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 WILLIAM THOMAS MYERS, Civil No. 10-2662 JAH (JMA) CDCR #E-18846, 12 Plaintiff, 13 ORDER DENYING MOTION TO 14 VS. 15 FOR FAILING TO PREPAY FULL CIVIL FILING FEE 16 [Doc. No. 2] U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE, et al., 17 18 Defendants. 19 20 21 22 Plaintiff, an inmate currently incarcerated at Calipatria State Prison in Calipatria, 23 California, and proceeding pro se, has filed a civil rights complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Plaintiff has not prepaid the \$350 filing fee mandated by 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a); instead, 24 he has filed a Motion to Proceed In Forma Pauperis ("IFP") pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a) 25 [Doc. No. 2]. 26 27 /// 28

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I.

MOTION TO PROCEED IFP

All parties instituting any civil action, suit or proceeding in a district court of the United States, except an application for writ of habeas corpus, must pay a filing fee of \$350. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a). An action may proceed despite a party's failure to pay only if the party is granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis ("IFP") pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a). *See Andrews v. Cervantes*, 493 F.3d 1047, 1051 (9th Cir. 2007); *Rodriguez v. Cook*, 169 F.3d 1176, 1177 (9th Cir. 1999). "Under the PLRA [Prison Litigation Reform Act], all prisoners who file IFP civil actions must pay the full amount of the filing fee," regardless of whether the action is ultimately dismissed for any reason. *See Taylor v. Delatoore*, 281 F.3d 844, 847 (9th Cir. 2002) (citing 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1) & (2)).

In order to comply with the PLRA, prisoners seeking leave to proceed IFP must also submit a "certified copy of the trust fund account statement (or institutional equivalent) for the prisoner for the 6-month period immediately preceding the filing of the complaint...." 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(2). From the certified trust account statement, the Court assesses an initial payment of 20% of (a) the average monthly deposits in the account for the past six months, or (b) the average monthly balance in the account for the past six months, whichever is greater, unless the prisoner has no assets. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1), (4); *see Taylor*, 281 F.3d at 850. Thereafter, the institution having custody of the prisoner must collect subsequent payments, assessed at 20% of the preceding month's income, in any month in which the prisoner's account exceeds \$10, and forward those payments to the Court until the entire filing fee is paid. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(2).

While Plaintiff has filed a Motion to Proceed IFP in this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a), he has not attached a certified copy of his prison trust account statement for the 6-month period immediately preceding the filing of his Complaint. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(2); S.D. CAL. CIVLR 3.2. Section 1915(a)(2) clearly mandates that prisoners "seeking to bring a civil action ...without prepayment of fees ... *shall* submit a certified copy of the trust fund

1 account statement (or institutional equivalent) ... for the 6-month period immediately preceding 2 the filing of the complaint." 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(2) (emphasis added). 3 Without Plaintiff's trust account statement, the Court is simply unable to assess the 4 appropriate amount of the filing fee which is statutorily required to initiate the prosecution of 5 this action. See 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). Therefore, Plaintiff's Motion to Proceed IFP must be DENIED. 6 7 II. 8 CONCLUSION AND ORDER 9 For the reasons set forth above, IT IS ORDERED that: 10 (1) Plaintiff's Motion to Proceed IFP [Doc. No. 2] is **DENIED**. 11 (2) This action is **DISMISSED** without prejudice for failure to prepay the \$350 filing fee mandated by 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a). 12 13 (3) Plaintiff if **GRANTED** an additional forty five (45) days from the date this Order is Filed to either: (1) pay the entire \$350 filing fee, or (2) file a new Motion to Proceed IFP, 14 15 which includes a certified copy of his trust account statement for the 6-month period preceding 16 the filing of his Complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(2) and S.D. CAL. CIVLR 3.2(b). 17 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Clerk of the Court shall provide Plaintiff with a 18 Court-approved form "Motion and Declaration in Support of Motion to Proceed IFP" in this 19 matter. If Plaintiff neither pays the \$350 filing fee in full nor sufficiently completes and files 20 the attached Motion to Proceed IFP, together with a certified copy of his prison trust account 21 statement within 45 days, this action shall remained closed without further Order of the Court. 22 23 DATED: January 3, 2011 24

> JOHN A. HOUSTON United States District Judge

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