Noland v. Astrue

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assets, showing that plaintiff is unable to pay the required filing fee. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a). The Court has broad discretion to deny a motion to proceed IFP in a civil action, however. *O'Loughlin v. Doe*, 920 F.2d 614, 616 (9th Cir. 1990).

Here, Plaintiff does not indicate whether or where he is employed, but notes that his takehome pay is \$1142.41. (IFP Mot. 1, ECF No. 2) He further indicates that he receives "pension of \$642 and a settlement of \$500 a month." (*Id.*) The Court notes that together the pension and settlement funds amount to \$1142, approximately the same amount Plaintiff lists as his take-home pay. As such, because Plaintiff has left question 2 regarding his employment blank, it is unclear whether these funds—listed under "Other Income"—are in addition to the take-home pay listed, or are the sources of the take-home pay.

Plaintiff also has \$600 in his bank account, and owns a five-year-old truck worth approximately \$8000. (*Id.* at 2) He indicates, however, that he pays \$725.05 per month in truck payments, and that the truck "will soon be in [his] bankruptcy case." (*Id.*) He lists no other dependants, debts, or financial obligations. (*See id.*)

Based on the information provided, the Court is unable to determine whether leave to proceed IFP should be granted. A plaintiff wishing to proceed IFP must demonstrate his poverty with "some particularity, definiteness, and certainty," which Plaintiff has not done here. *United States v. McQuade*, 647 F.2d 938, 940 (9th Cir. 1981) (per curiam) (internal quotation marks omitted). Plaintiff should have provided an accurate and detailed response to question 2 in the IFP application, indicating when, whether, and where he is employed, and whether the take-home pay listed is in addition to the pension and settlement funds, or is the total of those funds. The scant information given in Plaintiff's IFP application provides the Court with no reliable understanding of Plaintiff's financial position. Thus, the Court finds that Plaintiff's declaration of inability to pay costs or give security is insufficient to permit him to proceed IFP.

For these reasons, Plaintiff's motion to proceed IFP is **DENIED** and the complaint is **DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE**. Pursuant to this Order, however, Plaintiff is granted sixty days from the date this Order is electronically docketed to pay the \$350 filing fee required to maintain this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1914, or to submit an amended IFP application with

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1	additional documentation regarding his economic status. If Plaintiff chooses to file additional
2	information regarding his poverty he SHALL ATTACH a copy of this Order to his amended
3	application.
4	IT IS SO ORDERED.
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6	DATED: April 2, 2012
7	Honorable Janis L. Sammartino
8	United States District Judge
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Order to his amended IFP