

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLORADO

Civil Action No. 09-cv-01303-BNB

PHILIP A. PUNK, JR.,

Plaintiff,

v.

STATE OF COLO.,  
EL PASO COUNTY,  
D.A. STAFF,  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE,  
POLICE INVESTIGATORS, and  
JUDGE'S STAFF,

Defendants.

**FILED**  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DENVER, COLORADO

JUL 07 2009

GREGORY C. LANGHAM  
CLERK

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ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF LEAVE TO PROCEED  
PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 1915  
WITHOUT PAYMENT OF INITIAL PARTIAL FILING FEE

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On June 15, 2009, Plaintiff, Philip A. Punk, filed a Prisoner's Motion and Affidavit for Leave to Proceed Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915. Plaintiff also submitted a certified copy of his trust fund account statement. On June 18, 2009, the Court granted Plaintiff permission to proceed in forma pauperis and directed him to pay an initial partial filing fee of \$1.00 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1) or to show cause why he has no assets and no means by which to pay the designated initial partial filing fee by filing a current certified copy of his trust fund account statement.

On July 6, 2009, Plaintiff filed a current certified copy of his trust fund account statement and asserted that he is unable to pay the \$1.00. Based on the information provided about Plaintiff's financial status, the Court finds that Plaintiff is unable to pay an initial partial filing fee pursuant to § 1915(b)(1).

Title 28 U.S.C. § 1915 requires a prisoner bringing a civil action “to pay the full amount of a filing fee.” 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). If a prisoner is unable to afford the full amount of the filing fee when the case is filed, the statute provides for payment of the filing fee through an initial partial filing fee and monthly installments of the balance until the full filing fee is paid. However, “[i]n no event shall a prisoner be prohibited from bringing a civil action or appealing a civil or criminal judgment for the reason that the prisoner has no assets and no means by which to pay the initial partial filing fee.” 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(4).

Because Plaintiff’s trust fund account statement indicates that he has insufficient funds in his inmate account available to him to pay an initial partial filing fee and that he has no other available assets, Plaintiff may proceed in this action without payment of an initial partial filing fee. The Court will proceed to review Plaintiff’s complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B) to determine whether it is frivolous or malicious, or seeks monetary relief against a defendant who is immune from such relief.

However, although he need not pay an initial partial filing fee, Plaintiff remains obligated to pay the required \$350.00 filing fee through monthly installments as directed in this Order. Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that Plaintiff may proceed without payment of an initial partial filing fee. Plaintiff remains obligated to pay the full amount of the required \$350.00 filing fee pursuant to § 1915(b)(1) regardless of the outcome of this action. It is

FURTHER ORDERED that, until the \$350.00 filing fee is paid in full, Plaintiff shall make monthly payments to the Court of twenty percent of the preceding month’s income credited to his account or show cause why he has no assets and no means by which to make each monthly payment. Plaintiff is directed to make the necessary

arrangements to have the monthly payments identified by the civil action number on this order. In order to show cause, Plaintiff must file a current certified copy of his trust fund account statement. It is

FURTHER ORDERED that if Plaintiff fails to have the appropriate monthly payment sent to the Clerk of the Court each month or to show cause each month as directed above why he has no assets and no means by which to make the monthly payment, the Complaint may be dismissed without prejudice and without further notice. It is

FURTHER ORDERED that process shall not issue until further order of the Court. It is

**FURTHER ORDERED that the Court may dismiss this action and may apply all or part of the filing fee payments tendered in this action to satisfy any filing fee debt Plaintiff may owe in a prior action or actions if Plaintiff fails to stay current with his payment obligations in the prior action or actions.**

DATED July 7, 2009, at Denver, Colorado.

BY THE COURT:

s/ Boyd N. Boland  
United States Magistrate Judge

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLORADO

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

Civil Action No. 09-cv-01303-BNB

Philip A. Punk Jr.  
Prisoner No. 120656  
Sterling Correctional Facility  
PO Box 6000 - Unit 2 B 208 A  
Sterling, CO 80751

I hereby certify that I have mailed a copy of the **ORDER** to the above-named individuals on 7/7/09

GREGORY G. LANGHAM, CLERK

By: 

Deputy Clerk