UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

ERIC D. WALKER,

Plaintiff,

V.

Case No. 08-cv-670-JPG

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, MAJOR PICKERING, and DANIEL L. AUSTIN,

Defendants.

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

This matter comes before the Court on plaintiff Eric D. Walker's motion to dismiss (Doc. 5), which the Court construes as a notice of dismissal pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(a)(1)(A)(i). Rule 41(a)(1)(A)(i) allows dismissal of an action by a plaintiff without a court order at any time before service by an adverse party of an answer or of a motion for summary judgment, whichever first occurs. The defendant has not filed an answer or motion for summary judgment in this case. Because the plaintiff has an absolute right to dismiss this case at the present time, the Court finds that this action is **DISMISSED without prejudice** and **DIRECTS** the Clerk of Court to enter judgment accordingly.

IT IS SO ORDERED. DATED: March 3, 2009

s/ J. Phil Gilbert

J. PHIL GILBERT

DISTRICT JUDGE