MOON v. LOCKETT et al Doc. 4

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

DARNELL WESLEY MOON,)	
	Plaintiff,)	
vs.)	No. 1:12-cv-00771-TWP-MJD
)	
CHARLES LOCKETT, et al.,)	
)	
	Defendants.)	

Entry and Order Directing Dismissal of Action

The request of plaintiff Darnell Moon ("Moon"), a federal prisoner, to proceed in forma pauperis is **denied** and this action must be **dismissed without prejudice.** This conclusion is based on the following facts and circumstances:

- 1. Moon is confined at a federal prison in Illinois, but was previously confined in this this District. He files this action pursuant the theory recognized in *Bivens v. Six Unknown Federal Narcotics Agents*, 403 U.S. 38 (1971), and the Federal Tort Claims Act seeking redress for the asserted violation of his federally secured rights. His complaint is accompanied by his request to proceed *in forma pauperis*.
- 2. Moon has arguably demonstrated his present inability to prepay the \$350.00 filing fee for this action. This explains his request to proceed *in forma pauperis*, a status authorized in appropriate circumstances, 28 U.S.C. 1915(a). Moon's indigence is an impediment to payment of the filing fee at present, but is not a bar to the obligation to pay. All 1915 has ever done is excuse *pre*-payment of the docket fees; a litigant remains liable for them, and for other costs, although poverty may make collection impossible. *Abdul-Wadood v. Nathan*, 91 F.3d 1023, 1025 (7th Cir. 1996); *see also Longbehn v. United States*, 169 F.3d 1082, 1083 (7th Cir. 1999) ("every litigant has the legal responsibility to pay the filing and docketing fees to the extent feasible"); *Hains v. Washington*, 131 F.3d 1248, 1250 (7th Cir. 1997).
- 3. Moon's meager financial reserves do not tell the whole story in relation to his request to proceed *in forma pauperis*. The reason for this is Moon's frivolous litigation under 28 U.S.C. 1915(g). The court in *Moon v. Missouri Div. of Employment Sec.*, 2009 WL 3261920, 1 (W.D.Mo. 2009), noted that Moon has accumulated more than three strikes. The court cited the following cases as ones in which Moon had acquired a strike: *Moon v. United States*, No. 09-0006 (E.D.Mo.

2009) (legally frivolous); Moon v. National Asset Recovery Services, Inc., No. 09-0117 (E.D.Mo. 2009) (legally frivolous); Moon v. National Asset Recovery Services, Inc., No. 09-1129 (E.D.Mo. 2009) (legally frivolous).

- 4. This renders Moon ineligible to proceed *in forma pauperis* in this case.¹
- 5. These circumstances trigger the rule of *Sloan v. Lesza*, 181 F.3d 857, 859 (7th Cir. 1999), which states:

An effort to bamboozle the court by seeking permission to proceed *in forma pauperis* after a federal judge has held that 1915(g) applies to a particular litigant will lead to immediate termination of the suit.

Accordingly, Moon's application to proceed *in forma pauperis* [Dkt. 3] is **denied** and this action is **dismissed**, without prejudice.

Judgment consistent with this Entry shall now issue.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: _____

Distribution:

Darnell Wesley Moon 34077-044 Marion U.S. Penitentiary P.O. Box 1000 Marion, IL 62959 Hon. Tanya Walton Pratt, Judge United States District Court Southern District of Indiana

¹The exception under 28 U.S.C. 1915(g), that he is under imminent danger of serious physical injury, does not apply to any of the circumstances alleged here because he is no longer confined in the Southern District of Indiana.