

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI  
HATTIESBURG DIVISION**

**CHARLIE BURNSIDE BAKER, #81120**

**PLAINTIFF**

**VERSUS**

**CIVIL ACTION NO. 2:10-cv-255-KS-MTP**

**CHRISTOPHER EPPS, et al.**

**DEFENDANTS**

**MEMORANDUM OPINION**

Plaintiff, an inmate of the Mississippi Department of Corrections, filed a *pro se* civil rights complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and requested *in forma pauperis* status. On November 29, 2010, this Court entered an order [9] directing the Plaintiff to file a written response to provide specific information regarding his claims, on or before December 20, 2010. The Plaintiff was warned that his failure to timely comply with any order of this Court may result in the dismissal of this case. Plaintiff failed to comply with this order.

On January 5, 2011, an order [10] was entered directing the Plaintiff to show cause, on or before January 25, 2011, why this case should not be dismissed for his failure to comply with the Court's November 29, 2010 order. In addition, Plaintiff was directed to comply with the Court's order by filing a written response, on or before January 25, 2011. The show cause order warned Plaintiff that failure to timely comply with the requirements of the order would lead to the dismissal of his complaint, without further notice. Plaintiff did not comply with the show cause order.

On February 11, 2011, a final show cause order [11] was entered directing Plaintiff to show cause why this case should not be dismissed for his failure to comply with the Court's

orders of November 29, 2010, and January 5, 2011. Plaintiff was directed to comply with the final show cause order, on or before February 25, 2011. The Plaintiff was also warned in this final show cause order that failure to keep this Court informed of his current address or failure to comply with the requirements of the order by February 25, 2011, would result in the dismissal of his case. Plaintiff has not complied with the final show cause order.

Plaintiff has failed to comply with three court orders and he has not contacted this Court since November 9, 2010. This Court has the authority to dismiss an action for failure to prosecute and failure to comply with court orders under Rule 41(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and under its inherent authority to dismiss the action *sua sponte*. See generally, *Link v. Wabash R.R.*, 370 U.S. 626 (1962); *Larson v. Scott*, 157 F.3d 1030 (5th Cir.1998); *McCullough v. Lynaugh*, 835 F.2d 1126 (5th Cir. 1988). The Court must be able to clear its calendars of cases that remain dormant because of the inaction or dilatoriness of the parties seeking relief, so as to achieve the orderly and expeditious disposition of cases. *Link*, 370 U.S. at 630. Such a “sanction is necessary in order to prevent undue delays in the disposition of pending cases and to avoid congestion in the calendars” of the Court. *Id.* at 629-30.

The Court concludes that dismissal of this action for Plaintiff’s failure to prosecute and failure to comply with the orders of the Court under Rule 41(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is proper. See *Rice v. Doe*, 306 Fed. App’x 144 (5th Cir. 2009). Since the Defendants have not been called on to respond to Plaintiff’s pleading, and the Court has not considered the merits of Plaintiff’s claims, the Court’s order of dismissal is without prejudice.

*See Munday/Elkins Auto. Partners, LTD. v. Smith*, 201 Fed. App'x 265, 267 (5th Cir. 2006).

A Final Judgment in accordance with this Memorandum Opinion will be entered.

SO ORDERED, this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2011.

*s/ Keith Starrett*  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE