

1

2

3

4

5

6

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

7

* * *

8

DAMON R JOHNSON,	Case No. 2:21-cv-00307-RFB-VCF
	ORDER
Plaintiff,	
v.	
NEVADA DEPT OF CORRECTIONS, et. al,	
Defendants.	

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16 This action is a *pro se* civil rights complaint filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 by

17 a former state prisoner. On June 9, 2021, this Court issued an order denying the

18 application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for prisoners as moot because Plaintiff was no

19 longer incarcerated. (ECF No. 5). The Court ordered Plaintiff to file a fully complete

20 application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners or pay the full filing fee of

21 \$402.00 within thirty (30) days from the date of that order. (*Id.*) The thirty-day period has

22 now expired, and Plaintiff has not filed an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for

23 non-prisoners, paid the full filing fee, or otherwise responded to the Court's order.

24 District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and "[i]n the

25 exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . .

26 dismissal" of a case. *Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of Los Angeles*, 782 F.2d 829, 831

27 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party's failure

28 to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules.

1 See *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (dismissal for noncompliance
2 with local rule); *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (dismissal
3 for failure to comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint); *Carey v. King*, 856
4 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (dismissal for failure to comply with local rule requiring
5 *pro se* plaintiffs to keep court apprised of address); *Malone v. U.S. Postal Service*, 833
6 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987) (dismissal for failure to comply with court order); *Henderson*
7 v. *Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421, 1424 (9th Cir. 1986) (dismissal for lack of prosecution and
8 failure to comply with local rules).

9 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to obey
10 a court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the court must consider several factors:
11 (1) the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need to
12 manage its docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy favoring
13 disposition of cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives.
14 *Thompson*, 782 F.2d at 831; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 130;
15 *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-61; *Ghazali*, 46 F.3d at 53.

16 In the instant case, the Court finds that the first two factors, the public's interest in
17 expeditiously resolving this litigation and the Court's interest in managing the docket,
18 weigh in favor of dismissal. The third factor, risk of prejudice to Defendants, also weighs
19 in favor of dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of
20 unreasonable delay in filing a pleading ordered by the court or prosecuting an action. See
21 *Anderson v. Air West*, 542 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor – public policy
22 favoring disposition of cases on their merits – is greatly outweighed by the factors in favor
23 of dismissal discussed herein. Finally, a court's warning to a party that his failure to obey
24 the court's order will result in dismissal satisfies the "consideration of alternatives"
25 requirement. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 132-33; *Henderson*, 779
26 F.2d at 1424. The Court's order requiring Plaintiff to file an application to proceed *in forma*
27 *pauperis* for non-prisoners or pay the full filing fee within thirty (30) days expressly stated:
28 "IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if Plaintiff does not timely comply with this order,

1 dismissal of this action may result." (ECF No. 5). Thus, Plaintiff had adequate warning
2 that dismissal could result from his noncompliance with the Court's order to file an
3 application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners or pay the full filing fee within
4 thirty (30) days.

5 It is therefore ordered that this action is dismissed without prejudice based on
6 Plaintiff's failure to file an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners or
7 pay the full filing fee in compliance with this Court's June 9, 2021 order. If Plaintiff wishes
8 to pursue any claims, he must file a complaint in a new action with the required fee or
9 application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners.

10 It is further ordered that the Clerk of Court shall enter judgment accordingly and
11 close this case. **No other documents shall be filed in this case.**

12 DATED THIS 16th day of July, 2021.



13
14 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28