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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

EDWIN VELEZ,

Plaintiff,

vs.

DZURENDA, *et al.*,

Defendants.

3:21-cv-00197-ART-CSD

**Order Adopting Report &
Recommendation of U.S. Magistrate
Judge and Denying Motion to Dismiss**

10 Plaintiff Edwin Velez, an inmate in custody of the Nevada Department of
11 Corrections, brings this action against Defendants seeking redress for civil rights
12 violations, negligence, and negligent infliction of emotional distress. (ECF No. 67 at
13 2.) In his second amended complaint, Plaintiff claims that Defendants' refusal to
14 provide Plaintiff with proper care and appropriate treatment exacerbated his serious
15 medical condition, caused unnecessary pain and suffering, and ultimately resulted in
16 the permanent loss of Plaintiff's left testicle. (*Id.* at 2.) Defendant Roehl Pena filed a
17 motion to dismiss. (ECF No. 77.) U.S. Magistrate Judge Denney then issued a report
18 and recommendation (R&R) screening Plaintiff's SAC and recommending that Pena's
19 motion to dismiss be denied. (ECF No. 86.) Neither Plaintiff nor Defendants objected
20 to Judge Denney's R&R. Plaintiff then filed a notice of voluntary dismissal of Pena.
21 (ECF No. 97.) For the following reasons, the Court adopts Judge Denney's R&R.

22 **I. DISCUSSION**

23 Under the Federal Magistrates Act, a Court "may accept, reject, or modify, in
24 whole or in part, the findings or recommendations made by [a] magistrate judge." 28
25 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1). Where a party timely objects to a magistrate judge's report and

1 recommendation, the court is required to “make a *de novo* determination of those
2 portions of the [report and recommendation] to which objection is made.” 28 U.S.C. §
3 636(b)(1). A court is not required to conduct “any review at all . . . of any issue that is
4 not the subject of an objection.” *Thomas v. Arn*, 474 U.S. 140, 149 (1985).

5 **A. Screening of Second Amended Complaint**

6 Judge Denney’s R&R first screened Plaintiff’s SAC in response to a motion to
7 screen (or alternatively to dismiss) filed by Defendants Carol Alley, Kim Adamson,
8 and Martin Naughton). (ECF No. 82.) Judge Denney explained that, although the SAC
9 was filed by counsel, screening was in the interests of judicial economy because it
10 obviated the need for response to be filed to the motion to dismiss. (ECF No. 86 at 5.)

11 In screening the SAC, Judge Denney found that Plaintiff stated a colorable
12 Eighth Amendment claim for deliberate indifference to serious medical needs against
13 each of the Defendants and recommended that the Court allow Plaintiff to proceed of
14 this claim. (ECF No. 86 at 7-11.) Judge Denney found that the Court did not have
15 jurisdiction over Plaintiff’s state law claims because Nevada has not waived its
16 Eleventh Amendment immunity from suit for cases filed in federal court. (*Id.* at 11-
17 12.) As such, Judge Denney recommended denial of Plaintiff’s claims for negligence
18 and negligent infliction of emotional distress. (*Id.*)

19 Because neither party has objected to the R&R and because Judge Denney has
20 not committed clear error, the Court accepts the screening recommendations in full.

21 **B. Motion to Dismiss**

22 Judge Denney’s R&R next recommended that Dr. Pena’s motion to dismiss be
23 denied. (ECF No. 86 at 12-13.) Because Plaintiff has voluntarily dismissed Dr. Pena
24 from this action (ECF No. 97), the Court denies Dr. Pena’s motion to dismiss as moot.

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1 **II. CONCLUSION**

2 It is therefore ordered that Judge Denney's R&R is adopted.

3 Plaintiff is permitted to proceed with his Eighth Amendment claim for
4 deliberate indifference to serious medical needs against Defendants Minev, Naughton,
5 Adamson, McKee, Alley, Landsman, and Gaulin.

6 Plaintiff's state law claims are dismissed without prejudice.

7 Defendants Naughton, Alley, and Adamson's alternative request for dismissal
8 (ECF No. 81) is denied.

9 Defendant Pena's motion to dismiss (ECF No. 77) is denied.

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11 DATED: November 26, 2024

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15 ANNE R. TRAUM
16 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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