

[T]o ensure that the pleadings give notice of all the issues that are in the controversy so they can be handled and comprehended expeditiously, the safer practice is to introduce an amended pleading that is complete in itself, rather than one that refers to the prior pleading or seeks to incorporate a portion of it. . . . Even if the pleading is lengthy and involved, a self-contained amended pleading will assist the parties and the court in dealing with the issues better than one that is replete with references to another pleading.

6 CHARLES ALAN WRIGHT ET AL., FEDERAL PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE § 1476 (3d ed.).

If Mr. Washington should fail to file an all-inclusive amended complaint within the time allotted by the Court, then I will treat the (Dkt. No. 1) as the operative pleading and submit it to the screening process.

In addition, Mr. Washington has filed an application for pro bono counsel. (*See* Dkt. No. 2.) At a minimum, the Court must find that the plaintiff's claims have legal and factual merit before appointing pro bono counsel. *See Tabron v. Grace*, 6 F.3d 147, 155 (3d Cir. 1993). Because the substance of Mr. Washington's claims is not settled (*see* above), I will not rule on pro bono counsel at the present time. I will do so when his complaint is screened.

Accordingly, IT IS this 29th day of September, 2015,

ORDERED that *in forma pauperis* status is granted; and it is further

ORDERED that the document designated "amended complaint" (Dkt. No. 3) is not accepted for filing; and it is further

ORDERED that the Court grants plaintiff leave to submit an all-inclusive amended complaint, containing all of the claims and requests for relief that he wishes to assert, within forty-five (45) days of the date of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that plaintiff's failure to comply with this Order within forty-five (45) days will result in this Court screening only plaintiff's original complaint (Dkt. No. 1); and it is further

ORDERED that the Clerk shall serve this Order and a blank form prisoner civil rights complaint on plaintiff by regular U.S. mail.


KEVIN MCNULTY
United States District Judge