

PEARSON, J.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION

CHAD McCOY,)	
)	CASE NO. 4:15CV1932
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	JUDGE BENITA Y. PEARSON
)	
FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL)	
INSTITUTION, ELKTON)	
)	<u>MEMORANDUM OF OPINION</u>
Defendant.)	<u>AND ORDER</u>

I. Background

On September 18, 2015, *Pro Se* Plaintiff Chad McCoy filed this action for a Writ of Mandamus against Defendant Federal Correctional Institution, Elkton. The Complaint ([ECF No. 1](#)), which seeks money damages and jail time credit, consists of unintelligible legal assertions unsupported by relevant factual allegations.

II. Standard of Review

A district court is expressly authorized to dismiss any civil action filed by a prisoner seeking relief from a governmental officer or entity, as soon as possible after docketing, if the court concludes that the pleading fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, or if the prisoner seeks monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. [28 U.S.C. § 1915A](#); [Siller v. Dean, No. 99-5323, 2000 WL 145167, at *2 \(6th Cir. Feb.1, 2000\)](#).

A cause of action fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted when it lacks “plausibility in th[e] complaint.” [Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly, 550 U.S. 544, 564 \(2007\)](#). A

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pleading must contain a “short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief.” [Ashcroft v. Iqbal](#), 556 U.S. 662, 677-78 (2009) (quoting [Fed. R. Civ. P. 8\(a\)\(2\)](#)). The factual allegations in the pleading must be sufficient to raise the right to relief above the speculative level on the assumption that all the allegations in the complaint are true. [Twombly](#), 550 U.S. at 555. Plaintiff is not required to include detailed factual allegations, but must provide more than “an unadorned, the-defendant-unlawfully-harmed-me accusation.” [Iqbal](#), 556 U.S. at 678. A pleading that offers legal conclusions or a simple recitation of the elements of a cause of action will not meet this pleading standard. [Id.](#)

Principles requiring generous construction of *pro se* pleadings are not without limits. See [Wells v. Brown](#), 891 F.2d 591, 594 (6th Cir. 1989); [Beaudett v. City of Hampton](#), 775 F.2d 1274, 1277 (4th Cir. 1985). A complaint must contain either direct or inferential allegations respecting all the material elements of some viable legal theory to satisfy federal notice pleading requirements. See [Schied v. Fanny Farmer Candy Shops, Inc.](#), 859 F.2d 434, 437 (6th Cir. 1988). District courts are not required to conjure up questions never squarely presented to them or to construct full blown claims from sentence fragments. [Beaudett](#), 775 F.2d at 1278. To do so would require the “courts to explore exhaustively all potential claims of a *pro se* plaintiff . . . [and] would . . . transform the district court from its legitimate advisory role to the improper role of an advocate seeking out the strongest arguments and most successful strategies for a party.” [Id.](#)

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III. Law and Analysis

Federal district courts are provided with mandamus jurisdiction in [28 U.S.C. § 1361](#) “to compel an officer or employee of the United States or any agency thereof to perform a duty owed to the plaintiff.” To obtain relief under [§ 1361](#), an individual must establish a clear right to relief and that a federal employee has a clear, nondiscretionary duty to act. See [Heckler v. Ringer, 466 U.S. 602, 616-17 \(1984\)](#); [In re Bankers Trust Co., 61 F.3d 465, 469 \(6th Cir. 1995\)](#); [Ryon v. O’Neill, 894 F.2d 199, 205 \(6th Cir. 1990\)](#). Plaintiff must also demonstrate that no other adequate remedy is available. In connection with the last requirement, it is important to bear in mind that mandamus does not supersede other remedies, but rather becomes effective when there is a want of such remedies. [Carter v. Seamans, 411 F.2d 767, 773 \(5th Cir. 1969\)](#).

Even construing the Complaint filed in this case liberally in a light most favorable to Plaintiff, [Brand v. Motley, 526 F.3d 921, 924 \(6th Cir. 2008\)](#), it does not contain allegations reasonably suggesting he might have a valid federal claim, in mandamus or otherwise. See [Lillard v. Shelby County Bd. of Educ., 76 F.3d 716, 726 \(6th Cir. 1996\)](#) (court not required to accept summary allegations or unwarranted legal conclusions in determining whether complaint states a claim for relief). Moreover, to the extent Plaintiff is seeking to challenge his conviction or the duration of his confinement, his sole federal remedy is a writ of habeas corpus. [Preiser v. Rodriguez, 411 U.S. 475, 501 \(1973\)](#).

IV. Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, this action is dismissed pursuant to [28 U.S.C. § 1915A](#). Plaintiff’s pending Motion Seeking Show Cause Order Issuance or, in the Alternative, Seeking

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Service of Summons Free of Charge by the U.S. Marshal's Service ([ECF No. 2](#)) is denied as moot. The Court certifies, pursuant to [28 U.S.C. § 1915\(a\)\(3\)](#), that an appeal from this decision could not be taken in good faith.¹

IT IS SO ORDERED.

November 30, 2015
Date

/s/ Benita Y. Pearson
Benita Y. Pearson
United States District Judge

¹ [28 U.S.C. § 1915\(a\)\(3\)](#) provides:

An appeal may not be taken in forma pauperis if the trial court certifies in writing that it is not taken in good faith.