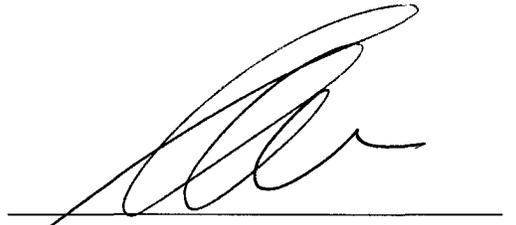


The only defendant Johnson names is the SWVRJA. Even if the SWVRJA is amenable to suit under § 1983,¹ a plaintiff seeking to prove that a governmental entity (such as a local jail) is liable for constitutional violations committed by its employees must show that the entity's policy was the "moving force of the constitutional violation." Polk Cnty. v. Dodson, 454 U.S. 312, 326 (1981). Here, Johnson has not so much as mentioned a jail policy, much less linked any jail policy to his allegedly unconstitutional treatment. Accordingly, the court will dismiss Johnson's complaint without prejudice pursuant to § 1915A(b)(1).

The clerk is directed to send a copy of this memorandum opinion and the accompanying order to the plaintiff.

ENTER: November 13, 2012.



UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

¹ See Will v. Mich. Dep't of State Police, 491 U.S. 58, 71 (1989) ("[I]n common usage, the term 'person' does not include the sovereign, [and] statutes employing the [word] are ordinarily construed to exclude it.") (internal quotation marks omitted) (quoting Wilson v. Omaha Tribe, 442 U.S. 653, 667 (1979)); Preval v. Reno, 203 F.3d 821 (4th Cir. 2000) (table decision) (affirming the district court's § 1915A dismissal on the ground that a jail is "not a 'person'" and therefore not amenable to suit under § 1983).