

FILED IN THE  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

**Mar 26, 2024**

SEAN F. McAVOY, CLERK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

GEORGE THOMAS LOVELL, JR.,  
Plaintiff,  
v.

No. 2:23-CV-00336-SAB

SPOKANE COUNTY; SGT. HILL;  
SPOKANE COUNTY JAIL; and  
UNKNOWN SPOKANE COUNTY  
CORRECTIONAL OFFICER,  
Defendants.

**ORDER DISMISSING ACTION**

By Order filed January 24, 2024, the Court advised Plaintiff, a resident of Liberty Lake, Washington, of the deficiencies of his civil rights complaint and directed him to amend or voluntarily dismiss within sixty (60) days. ECF No. 6. Plaintiff is proceeding *pro se* and *in forma pauperis*. Defendants have not been served. Plaintiff did not comply with the Court’s directive and has filed nothing further in this action.

Specifically, the Court found that Plaintiff’s attempt to assert violations of the PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) was insufficient to state a claim upon which this Court may grant relief. *See Watkins v. Tuolumne Cnty. Jail*, 2019 WL

1 95508, at \*3 (E.D. Cal. Jan. 3, 2019)(“there is nothing in the PREA to indicate that  
2 it created a private right of action, [or that it is otherwise] enforceable under §  
3 1983.”); *see also Balistreri v. Pacifica Police Dep’t*, 901 F.2d 696, 699 (9th Cir.  
4 1990) (as amended) (a complaint fails to state a claim if it lacks a cognizable legal  
5 theory). Furthermore, Plaintiff’s claims of verbal harassment were insufficient to  
6 state an Eighth Amendment claim. *See Blueford v. Prunty*, 108 F.3d 251, 254-55  
7 (9th Cir. 1997) (holding that a prison guard who engaged in “vulgar same-sex trash  
8 talk” with inmates was entitled to qualified immunity); *Keenan v. Hall*, 83 F.3d  
9 1083, 1092 (9th Cir. 1996) (holding that verbal threats and harassment do not state  
10 an Eighth Amendment claim). Finally, Plaintiff failed to present factual allegations  
11 supporting a claim of the excessive use of force. *Hudson v. McMillian*, 503 U.S. 1,  
12 7 (1992); *Whitley v. Albers*, 475 U.S. 312, 320–21 (1986); *Martinez v. Stanford*,  
13 323 F.3d 1178, 1184 (9th Cir. 2003).

14       Having granted Plaintiff the opportunity to amend or to voluntarily dismiss  
15 his Complaint, the Court must assume that his failure to do so is an abandonment  
16 of this litigation.

17 //  
18 //  
19 //  
20 //  
21 //  
22 //  
23 //  
24 //  
25 //  
26 //  
27 //  
28 //

1 Accordingly, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

2 1. For the reasons set forth above and in the Order to Amend or Voluntarily  
3 Dismiss Complaint, ECF No. 6, Plaintiff's Complaint, **ECF No. 1**, is **DISMISSED**  
4 **without prejudice** for failure to state a claim upon which relief may be granted  
5 under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1915A(b)(1) and 1915(e)(2).

6 2. The Court certifies pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(3) that any appeal  
7 of this Order would not be taken in good faith.

8 **IT IS SO ORDERED.** The Clerk of Court is directed to enter this Order,  
9 enter judgment, provide copies to Plaintiff at his last known address, and **close** the  
10 file.

11 **DATED** this 26th day of March 2024.



16 

17 Stanley A. Bastian  
18 Chief United States District Judge  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28