2 3 4 5 6 7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON 8 AT SEATTLE 9 CASE NO. C18-0838JLR 10 TORRENCE T. PALMS, ORDER DISMISSING CASE Plaintiff, 11 v. 12 RICH AUSTIN JR., 13 Defendant. 14 On September 6, 2018, the court entered an order that, inter alia, granted 15 Defendant Rich Austin Jr.'s motion to dismiss Plaintiff Torrence Palms's complaint, and 16 granted Mr. Palms leave to amend his complaint within 20 days from the date of the 17 order. (Order (Dkt. # 12).) On September 25, 2018, Mr. Palms asked the court for 30 18 additional days to amend his complaint so that he could first retain counsel. (Mot. (Dkt. 19 #15) at 1.) In the alternative, Mr. Palms asked the court to dismiss the case without 20 prejudice. (See id.) Mr. Austin did not respond to Mr. Palms's motion. (See generally 21

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Dkt.) For the following reasons, the court GRANTS in part and DENIES in part Mr. Palms's motion, and DISMISSES this case without prejudice.

Local Rule 7(j) provides a party with potential relief from a filing deadline. *See*Local Rules W.D. Wash. LCR 7(j). A stay from a deadline is appropriate when there is an "unforeseen emergency." *Ramirez v. Chow*, No. C12-5630JRC, 2013 WL 2285977, at *2 (W.D. Wash. May 23, 2013); *see also Lambert v. Dennis*, No. C15-1213RSM, 2016 WL 7441012, at *1 (W.D. Wash. Dec. 27, 2016). Moreover, "[a] motion for relief from a deadline should, whenever possible, be filed sufficiently in advance of the deadline to allow the court to rule on the motion prior to the deadline." Local Rules W.D. Wash. LCR 7(j). Mr. Palms filed his motion for relief on September 25, 2018 (*see* Mot.), one day before his deadline to amend his complaint (*see* Order at 13). Mr. Palms did not present the court with any evidence of an "unforeseen emergency" that makes relief from the deadline appropriate. The court therefore DENIES Mr. Palms's request for relief from the deadline.

More than 20 days have now passed since the court issued the order described above. (See Order.) Mr. Palms has failed to file an amended complaint. (See generally Dkt.) Accordingly, the court GRANTS Mr. Palms's alternatively requested relief, and DISMISSES without prejudice his complaint in its entirety.

Dated this <u>M</u> day of October, 2018.

JAMES L. ROBART United States District Judge