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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

Arnold James Begay,

Plaintiff,

United States President Barack Hussein Obama, II,,

Defendant.

No. CV 12-1948-PHX-PGR (BSB)

ORDER

I. Procedural History

On September 13, 2012, Plaintiff Arnold James Begay, who is confined in the Federal Correctional Institution-Marianna (FCI-Marianna) in Marianna, Florida, filed an untitled Document that appears to be a *pro se* Complaint. On September 24, 2012, Plaintiff filed an untitled Document regarding the caption and requesting that he be transferred closer to the Court. On October 12, 2012, Plaintiff filed a Letter notifying the Court, among other things, that he was confined in the Nevada Southern Detention Center.

In an October 23, 2012 Order, the Court noted that Plaintiff had not paid the \$350.00 civil action filing fee or filed an Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*. The Court gave Plaintiff 30 days to pay the fee or file a complete Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*. The Clerk of Court mailed the Order to Plaintiff at the Nevada Southern Detention Center.

On November 1, 2012, the Order was returned to the Court as undeliverable, with a notation that Plaintiff was "Not [an] NSDC Detainee."

On November 16, 2012, Plaintiff filed another untitled Document requesting that the Court investigate the Defendant. The Document was mailed to the Court in an envelope that lists Plaintiff's return address as the Federal Correctional Institution-Herlong (FCI-Herlong). On January 7, 2013, Plaintiff filed a Letter requesting that the Court order FCI-Herlong to "replace everything they have thrown away" and to have his "personal property go with [him]."

In a January 23, 2013 Order, the Court directed the Clerk of Court to update Plaintiff's address and send a copy of the October 23rd Order to Plaintiff at FCI-Herlong.. In the Order, the Court also gave Plaintiff 30 days from the date the Order was filed to comply with the October 23rd Order by either paying the filing fee or filing a complete Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*. The Court warned Plaintiff that the Clerk of Court would enter a judgment of dismissal of the action, without prejudice and without further notice to Plaintiff, if he failed to either pay the filing fee or file a complete Application to Proceed within 30 days.

On March 18, 2013, the Clerk of Court entered Judgment, dismissing the action because Plaintiff had failed to either pay the filing fee or file an Application to Proceed within 30 days of the January 23rd Order.

On March 20, 2013, Plaintiff filed a Motion for Extension of Time to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* (Doc. 12) and an Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* (Doc. 11).

II. Prison Mailbox Rule

Under the "prison mailbox rule," a document is deemed "filed" when delivered by the prisoner to a prison official for mailing. *See Houston v. Lack*, 487 U.S. 266, 276 (1988); *Douglas v. Noelle*, 567 F.3d 1103, 1107 (9th Cir. 2009). Plaintiff's Motion for Extension of Time was signed on March 14, 2013, and the Certificate of Correctional Official as to Status of Applicant's Trust Account Statement in the Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* was signed on March 15, 2013. It appears, therefore, that the

two documents were delivered to a prison official for mailing before the Clerk of Court entered Judgment. Thus, the Court will vacate the Judgment.

III. Motion for Extension of Time

In his Motion for Extension to Time, Plaintiff seeks an extension of time to file his Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*, claiming that he did not receive either of the Court's Orders until he arrived at FCI-Marianna on March 13, 2013. The Court, in its discretion, will grant the Motion for Extension of Time and will consider the March 20, 2013 Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* to be timely filed.

IV. Payment of Filing Fee

When bringing an action, a prisoner must either pay the \$350.00 filing fee in a lump sum or, if granted the privilege of proceeding *in forma pauperis*, pay the fee incrementally as set forth in 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). An application to proceed *in forma pauperis* requires an affidavit of indigence and a *certified* copy of the inmate's trust account statement for the six months preceding the filing of the Complaint. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(2). An inmate must submit statements from each institution where the inmate was confined during the six-month period. *Id.* To assist prisoners in meeting these requirements, the Court requires use of a form application. LRCiv 3.4.

If a prisoner is granted leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*, the Court will assess an initial partial filing fee of 20% of either the average monthly deposits or the average monthly balance in Plaintiff's account, whichever is greater. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). An initial partial filing fee will only be collected when funds exist. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(4). The balance of the fee will be collected in monthly payments of 20% of the preceding month's income credited to an inmate's account, each time the amount in the account exceeds \$10.00. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(2).

V. Application Fails to Comply With Statute

Plaintiff has used the court-approved form, but has left blank the "Consent to Collection of Fees from Trust Account" section. This part of the *in forma pauperis* application must be filled out, signed, and dated. In addition, Plaintiff has not submitted

a certified six-month trust account statement. In light of these deficiencies, the Court will deny the Application to Proceed and will give Plaintiff 30 days to either pay the \$350.00 filing fee or file a complete Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*.

VI. Warnings

A. Address Changes

Plaintiff must file and serve a notice of a change of address in accordance with Rule 83.3(d) of the Local Rules of Civil Procedure. Plaintiff must not include a motion for other relief with a notice of change of address. Plaintiff must file a Notice of Change of Address, not simply place his current address on a pleading. Failure to comply may result in dismissal of this action.

B. Copies

Plaintiff must submit an additional copy of every filing for use by the Court. *See* LRCiv 5.4. Failure to comply may result in the filing being stricken without further notice to Plaintiff.

C. Possible Dismissal

If Plaintiff fails to timely comply with every provision of this Order, including these warnings, the Court may dismiss this action without further notice. *See Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (a district court may dismiss an action for failure to comply with any order of the Court).

IT IS ORDERED:

- (1) The March 18, 2013 Judgment (Doc. 10) is **vacated**. The Clerk of Court must **reopen** this case.
- (2) Plaintiff's Motion for Extension to Time to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* (Doc. 12) is **granted**. The March 20, 2013 Application to Proceed is deemed timely filed.
- (3) Plaintiff's Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* (Doc. 11) is **denied** without prejudice.

- (4) Within 30 days of the date this Order is filed, Plaintiff must either pay the \$350.00 filing fee **or** file a complete Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* and a certified six-month trust account statement.
- (5) If Plaintiff fails to either pay the \$350.00 filing fee or file a complete Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* within 30 days, the Clerk of Court must enter a judgment of dismissal of this action without prejudice and without further notice to Plaintiff.
- (6) The Clerk of the Court must mail Plaintiff a court-approved form for filing an Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* (Non-Habeas).
- (7) The Clerk of Court must **update** the docket to reflect that Plaintiff is currently confined in the Federal Correctional Institution-Marianna.

Dated this 2nd day of May, 2013.

Paul G. Rosenblatt

United States District Judge

JDDL

Instructions for Prisoners Applying for Leave to Proceed *in Forma Pauperis* Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915 in a Civil Action (Non-habeas) in Federal Court

You must pay the full filing fee of \$350.00 for a civil action. If you later file an appeal, you will be obligated to pay the \$455.00 filing fee for the appeal.

If you have enough money to pay the full filing fee, you should send a cashier's check or money order payable to the Clerk of the Court with your complaint, petition, or notice of appeal.

If you do not have enough money to pay the full filing fee, you can file the action without prepaying the filing fee. However, the court will assess an initial partial filing fee. The initial partial filing fee will be the greater of 20% of the average monthly deposits or 20% of the average monthly balance in your prison or jail account for the six months immediately preceding the filing of the lawsuit. The court will order the agency that has custody of you to withdraw the initial partial filing fee from your prison or jail account as soon as funds are available and to forward the money to the court.

After the initial partial filing fee has been paid, you will owe the balance of the filing fee. Until the filing fee is paid in full, each month you will owe 20% of your preceding month's income. The agency that holds you in custody will collect that money and forward it to the court any time the amount in your account exceeds \$10.00. The balance of the filing fee may be collected even if the action is later dismissed, summary judgment is granted against you, or you fail to prevail at trial.

To file an action without prepaying the filing fee, and to proceed with an action *in forma pauperis*, you must complete the attached form and return it to the court with your complaint. You must have a prison or jail official complete the certificate on the bottom of the form and attach a certified copy of your prison or jail account statement for the last six months. If you were incarcerated in a different institution during any part of the past six months, you must attach a certificate and a certified copy of your account statement from <u>each</u> institution at which you were confined. If you submit an incomplete form or do not submit a prison or jail account statement with the form, your request to proceed *in forma pauperis* will be denied.

Even if some or all of the filing fee has been paid, the court is required to dismiss your action if: (1) your allegation of poverty is untrue; (2) the action is frivolous or malicious; (3) your complaint does not state a claim upon which relief can be granted; or (4) your complaint makes a claim against a defendant for money damages and that defendant is immune from liability for money damages.

If you file more than three actions or appeals which are dismissed as frivolous or malicious or for failure to state a claim on which relief can be granted, you will be prohibited from filing any other action *in forma pauperis* unless you are in imminent danger of serious physical injury.

	<u> </u>
Name and Prisoner/Booking Number	
Place of Confinement	
Mailing Address	<u> </u>
City, State, Zip Code	<u> </u>
City, State, Zip Code	
	ATES DISTRICT COURT RICT OF ARIZONA
)) CASE NO
Plaintiff,) CASE NO
VS.) APPLICATION TO PROCEED) IN FORMA PAUPERIS) PLA PRISONER
Defendant(s).) BY A PRISONER) CIVIL (NON-HABEAS) _)
In support of this application, I answer the follo Have you ever before brought an action or appeal Yes No If "Yes," how many ha	wing questions under penalty of perjury: in a federal court while you were incarcerated or detained? ve you filed? ecause they were frivolous, malicious, or failed to state a
2. Are you currently employed at the institution will If "Yes," state the amount of your pay and when	
	ments.

Revised 4/9/06 1

4.	Do you have any other sources of income, savings, or assets either inside or outside of the institution w you are confined?		
	If "Yes," state the sources and amounts of the income, savings, or assets.		
	I declare under penalty of perjury that the above information is true and correct.		
	DATE SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT		
	CONSENT TO COLLECTION OF FEES FROM TRUST ACCOUNT		
corrord Cou	stitution release to the Court my trust account information. I further consent to having the difference of this Court for the payment of filing fees in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b). My consent includes withdrawal from my account by correctional officials of partial initial payment equal to 20% of the greater of: (A) the average monthly deposits to my account for the six-month period preceding my fil action, or (B) the average monthly balance in my account for the six-month period preceding my fil action. My consent also includes monthly withdrawals from my account by correctional officials of an am 20% of each month's income. Whenever the amount in my account reaches \$10.00, correctional of thdraw that amount and forward it to the Court until the required filing fee is paid in full. I unders a liable for paying the entire fee, even if my case is dismissed by the Court before the fee is fully proceeding the court of the court before the fee is fully proceeding the court of the court before the fee is fully proceeding the court of the court before the fee is fully proceeding the court of the court before the fee is fully proceeding the court of the court before the fee is fully proceeding the court of the court	ly with the ents to this ling of this ount equal ficials will stand that I	
	DATE SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT		
	CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTIONAL OFFICIAL AS TO STATUS OF APPLICANT'S TRUST ACCOUNT		
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DA	ATE AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE TITLE/ID NUMBER INSTI	ITUTION	

Revised 4/9/06 2