

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SHERYL DENISE SLATON,  
Plaintiff,  
v.  
I.R.S.,  
Defendants.

No. 2:18-cv-00189-TLN-CKD (PS)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

Plaintiff Sheryl Denise Slaton, proceeding without counsel, commenced this action on January 29, 2018 and requested leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915. (ECF Nos. 1, 2.) The court denied this motion, but allowed plaintiff to submit two amended motions for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*. (See ECF Nos. 3–8.)

After three attempts, plaintiff was unable to demonstrate that she is unable to pay, or provide security for, the court filing fee. (ECF No. 9 at 2.) On May 18, 2018, the court denied plaintiff's second amended motion to proceed *in forma pauperis* and indicated that it would not entertain any further such motions. (*Id.* at 3.) Plaintiff was ordered to pay the filing fee, or request a reasonable extension of time to do so, within 28 days. (*Id.*) Additionally, plaintiff was advised that failure to comply with the court's order might result in dismissal of the action pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b).

////

1           Although the applicable deadline has now passed, plaintiff has failed to pay the filing fee  
2 or to request an extension of time to do so.

3           “Pro se litigants must follow the same rules of procedure that govern other litigants.”  
4 King v. Atiyeh, 814 F.2d 565, 567 (9th Cir. 1987) (overruled on other grounds). A district court  
5 may impose sanctions, including involuntary dismissal of a plaintiff’s case pursuant to Federal  
6 Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b), where that plaintiff fails to prosecute his or her case, or fails to  
7 comply with the court’s orders, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, or the court’s local rules.  
8 See Chambers v. NASCO, Inc., 501 U.S. 32, 44 (1991) (recognizing that a court “may act sua  
9 sponte to dismiss a suit for failure to prosecute”); Hells Canyon Preservation Council v. U.S.  
10 Forest Serv., 403 F.3d 683, 689 (9th Cir. 2005) (stating that courts may dismiss an action  
11 pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b) sua sponte for a plaintiff’s failure to prosecute  
12 or comply with the rules of civil procedure or the court’s orders); Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52,  
13 53 (9th Cir. 1995) (per curiam) (“Failure to follow a district court’s local rules is a proper ground  
14 for dismissal”); Ferdik v. Bonzelet, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260 (9th Cir. 1992) (“Pursuant to Federal  
15 Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b), the district court may dismiss an action for failure to comply with  
16 any order of the court”); Thompson v. Housing Auth. of City of L.A., 782 F.2d 829, 831 (9th Cir.  
17 1986) (per curiam) (stating that district courts have inherent power to control their dockets and  
18 may impose sanctions including dismissal or default).

19           Eastern District Local Rule 110 similarly provides that “[f]ailure of counsel or of a party  
20 to comply with these Rules or with any order of the Court may be grounds for imposition by the  
21 Court of any and all sanctions authorized by statute or Rule or within the inherent power of the  
22 Court.” Moreover, Eastern District Local Rule 183(a) provides, in part:

23           Any individual representing himself or herself without an attorney is  
24 bound by the Federal Rules of Civil or Criminal Procedure, these  
25 Rules, and all other applicable law. All obligations placed on  
26 “counsel” by these Rules apply to individuals appearing in propria  
persona. Failure to comply therewith may be ground for dismissal,  
judgment by default, or any other sanction appropriate under these  
Rules.

27           E.D. Cal. L.R. 183(a).

28           ////

1       Based on plaintiff's failure to follow the court's order and her failure to prosecute her  
2 case, the court has considered whether the action should be dismissed. However, in light of  
3 plaintiff's *pro se* status and the court's general preference to resolve actions on their merits, the  
4 court affords plaintiff a final opportunity to pay the filing fee and prosecute her case.

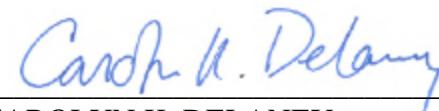
5       Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

6       1. Within 14 days of this order:

- 7           a. Plaintiff shall pay the applicable filing fee; and
- 8           b. Plaintiff shall show cause in writing why this matter should not be dismissed  
9                based on her failure to follow the court's order (ECF No. 9) and her failure to  
10              prosecute her case.

11       2. Plaintiff's failure to pay the filing fee or file the required response shall constitute an  
12            additional ground for, and plaintiff's consent to, the imposition of appropriate  
13            sanctions, including a recommendation that plaintiff's case be involuntarily dismissed  
14            with prejudice pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b) and Local Rules 110  
15            and 183(a).

16       Dated: June 28, 2018



---

17       CAROLYN K. DELANEY  
18       UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

19

20       14/ps.18.189.slaton v. irs.OSC

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28