

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

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MICHAEL E. FLOURNOY,

Plaintiff,

v.

ORDER

14-cv-554-jdp  
App. No. 15-1338

JOHN G. MCKENZIE,  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY OFFICE NDI-WD,  
THOMAS G. BRUTON, MARY T. LINDBLOOM,  
TERENCE JAMES HEATHERMAN,  
NEAL C. GRUHN, WAYNE JACKOWSKI,  
CRAIG SMITH, ADAM KING,  
JOHN D. RICHARDSON, FREDERICK J. KAPALA,  
JENNIFER TABORSKI, TINA M. CACCIATORE,  
WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE,  
LARRY MARINO, DOMINIC ISPARRO,  
ROBERT JUANEZ, DANIEL FREEDLUND,  
JOSEPH BOOMER, BRAD KAISER, and  
JULIE DODD,

Defendants.

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Judgment was entered in this case on January 26, 2015, after I dismissed pro se plaintiff Michael Flournoy's complaint for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. Dkt. 7 and Dkt. 8. Plaintiff moved for reconsideration of my order dated January 26, 2015, which I denied. Dkt. 10 and Dkt. 11. Now, plaintiff has filed a notice of appeal along with a motion for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*. Dkt. 12 and Dkt. 16.

Under 28 U.S.C. § 1915, a district court may deny a request for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* for one or more of the following reasons: the litigant wishing to take an appeal has not established indigence; the appeal is taken in bad faith; or the litigant is a prisoner and has three strikes. § 1915(a)(1),(3) and (g); *Sperow v. Melvin*, 153 F.3d 780, 781 (7th Cir.

1998). Plaintiff's request for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* on appeal will be denied, because I am certifying that his appeal is not taken in good faith. The Seventh Circuit has instructed district courts to find bad faith in cases in which a plaintiff is appealing the same claims that the court has already found to be without legal merit. *Lee v. Clinton*, 209 F.3d 1025, 1027 (7th Cir. 2000); *Lucien v. Roegner*, 682 F.2d 625, 626 (7th Cir. 1982) (per curiam). Plaintiff is trying to appeal the same claims on which I denied him leave to proceed, but he has not shown any legally meritorious basis for his appeal. Therefore, although I do not conclude that plaintiff is motivated by any ill will, I must certify that the appeal is not taken in good faith.

Because I am certifying that plaintiff's appeal is not taken in good faith, he cannot proceed with his appeal without prepaying the \$505 filing fee, unless the court of appeals gives him permission to do so. Under Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 24, plaintiff has 30 days from the date of this order to ask the court of appeals to review this court's denial of leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* on appeal. Plaintiff must include with his motion an affidavit as described in the first paragraph of Rule 24(a), with a statement of issues he intends to argue on appeal. Also, he must submit a copy of this order. Plaintiff should be aware that he must file these documents in addition to the notice of appeal that he has previously filed. If he does not file a motion requesting review of this order, the court of appeals may choose not to address the denial of leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* on appeal. Instead, it may require plaintiff to pay the full \$505 filing fee before it considers his appeal further. If he does not pay the fees within the deadline set, it is possible that the court of appeals will dismiss the appeal.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Plaintiff Michael Flournoy's motion for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* on appeal, Dkt. 16, is DENIED. I certify that his appeal is not taken in good faith.
2. The clerk of court is directed to ensure that plaintiff's obligation to pay the \$505 fee for filing his appeal is reflected in the court's financial records.

Entered March 9, 2015.

BY THE COURT:

/s/

JAMES D. PETERSON  
District Judge