IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

STEVEN J. PEPLINSKI,

ORDER

Plaintiff,

06-C-733-C

v.

TERRY COLLINS, ROBERT DUELLMAN, VINCE HOWE/subrogated; DIANE McMAHON, GARY REDSTEN, RICHARD SACIA and ANN SEAGO,

Defendants.

Plaintiff Steven Peplinski, who is proceeding pro se, has filed a proposed amended complaint. Because defendants have already answered plaintiff's complaint, he must receive leave of court before filing an amendment. Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a). However, leave should be granted freely when justice requires. <u>Id.</u> In this case, plaintiff has clarified his factual allegations and more clearly identified the claims he is asserting. Although amendment likely would not be required under such circumstances, the amended complaint is somewhat more coherent than his original one. Further, because the litigation is still in its early stages, defendants should not be prejudiced. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that plaintiff's motion

for leave to amend his complaint is GRANTED. Defendants may have until April 16, 2007, in which to file an amended answer. The deadlines in the preliminary pretrial conference order remain the same.

Entered this 26th day of March, 2007.

BY THE COURT: /s/ BARBARA B. CRABB District Judge