

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FILED

NOV 12 2019

Clerk, U.S. District and
Bankruptcy Courts

MICHAEL ALONZA RUFUS,

Plaintiff,

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Defendant.

Civil Action No. 19-2715 (UNA)

MEMORANDUM OPINION

On September 9, 2019, plaintiff Michael Alonza Rufus filed a civil complaint [ECF No. 1] and application to proceed *in forma pauperis* [ECF No. 2]. Notwithstanding plaintiff's assertion that he is not a prisoner, *see* Compl. at 1, it appears that plaintiff currently is incarcerated at a Georgia state prison, *see id.*


Generally, a litigant is required to pay a filing fee in full. *See* 28 U.S.C. §§ 1914(a), 1915(b)(1). Pursuant to the Prison Litigation Reform Act ("PLRA"), *in forma pauperis* status does not relieve a prisoner plaintiff of his obligation to pay the filing fee in full. *Asemani v. U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Servs.*, 797 F.3d 1069, 1072 (D.C. Cir. 2015). Rather than "pay the full filing fee at the time he brings suit . . . he can pay the filing fee in installments over time." *Id.* (citations omitted).

Before the Court would consider the plaintiff's complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*, the Court issued an order [ECF No. 4] on September 19, 2019, directing the plaintiff to submit a certified copy of his trust fund account statement (or institutional equivalent), including the supporting ledger sheets, for the six-month period immediately preceding the filing of this complaint, obtained from the appropriate official of each prison at

which the plaintiff is or was confined, within 60 days. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(2). The order advised the plaintiff that his failure to comply would result in dismissal of this action.

To date the plaintiff has not submitted the required financial information. The Court, therefore, will deny the plaintiff's application to proceed *in forma pauperis*, deny his two pending motions, and dismiss the complaint and this civil action without prejudice. An Order is issued separately.

DATE: November 8, 2019



TANYA S. CHUTKAN
United States District Judge