

MAY 26 2009

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U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

<p>RICHARD JOSEPH CRANE,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Plaintiff - Appellant,</p> <p>v.</p> <p>M. GONZALES, Correctional Officer; et al.,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Defendants - Appellees.</p>

No. 05-15279

D.C. No. CV-03-06480-REC

MEMORANDUM*

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Eastern District of California
Robert E. Coyle, District Judge, Presiding

Submitted May 12, 2009**

Before: PREGERSON, CANBY, and BERZON, Circuit Judges.

Richard Joseph Crane, a California state prisoner, appeals pro se from the district court's judgment dismissing without prejudice his 42 U.S.C. § 1983 action

* This disposition is not appropriate for publication and is not precedent except as provided by 9th Cir. R. 36-3.

** The panel unanimously finds this case suitable for decision without oral argument. See Fed. R. App. P. 34(a)(2).

for failure to exhaust administrative remedies pursuant to the Prison Litigation Reform Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1997e(a). We have jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1291. We review the district court's application of substantive law de novo and its factual determinations for clear error, *Wyatt v. Terhune*, 315 F.3d 1108, 1117 (9th Cir. 2003), and we affirm.

The district court properly dismissed Crane's action because he did not complete the prison grievance process prior to filing suit, and failed to demonstrate that he was obstructed from doing so. *See Woodford v. Ngo*, 548 U.S. 81, 93-95 (2006) (holding that "proper exhaustion" under § 1997e(a) is mandatory and requires adherence to administrative procedural rules); *see also McKinney v. Carey*, 311 F.3d 1198, 1199 (9th Cir. 2002) (per curiam) (requiring inmates to exhaust administrative remedies prior to filing suit in federal court).

AFFIRMED.