

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

FILED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

APR 21 2020

FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK
U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

EDWARD WAYNE BINNS,

Plaintiff-Appellant,

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA;
UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE,

Defendants-Appellees.

No. 19-55481

D.C. No. 2:19-cv-00696-ODW-SS

MEMORANDUM*

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Central District of California
Otis D. Wright II, District Judge, Presiding

Submitted April 7, 2020**

Before: TASHIMA, BYBEE, and WATFORD, Circuit Judges.

Edward Wayne Binns appeals pro se from the district court's order dismissing his action alleging claims related to his former employment with the United States Postal Service. We have jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1291. We

* This disposition is not appropriate for publication and is not precedent except as provided by Ninth Circuit Rule 36-3.

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

review de novo a dismissal on the basis of res judicata. *Mpoyo v. Litton Electro-Optical Sys.*, 430 F.3d 985, 987 (9th Cir. 2005). We affirm.

The district court properly dismissed Binns's action as barred by the doctrine of res judicata because Binns litigated these claims against defendants, or their privies, in a prior federal action that resulted in a final judgment on the merits. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b) (dismissal for failure to prosecute or comply with a court order "operates as an adjudication on the merits"); *Mpoyo*, 430 F.3d at 987-88 (elements of federal res judicata; claims are identical if they both arise from the same transactional nucleus of facts).

The district court did not abuse its discretion by denying leave to amend the complaint because amendment would be futile. *See Lopez v. Smith*, 203 F.3d 1122, 1127, 1129-30 (9th Cir. 2000) (setting forth standard of review; district court did not abuse its discretion by denying leave to amend, even if no request to amend the pleading was made, if amendment would be futile).

AFFIRMED.