

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

FILED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

DEC 14 2020

FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

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

ROD STUCKER,

Plaintiff-Appellant,

v.

STATE OF IDAHO; et al.,

Defendants-Appellees.

No. 19-35733

D.C. No. 1:19-cv-00007-DCN

MEMORANDUM\*

Appeal from the United States District Court  
for the District of Idaho  
David C. Nye, District Judge, Presiding

Submitted December 2, 2020\*\*

Before: WALLACE, CLIFTON, and BRESS, Circuit Judges.

Rod Stucker appeals pro se from the district court's judgment dismissing his action alleging federal and state law claims. We have jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1291. We review de novo a district court's determination of whether the complaint failed to comply with the notice pleading requirements of Federal Rule

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\* 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).

of Civil Procedure 8. *Pickern v. Pier 1 Imports (U.S.), Inc.*, 457 F.3d 963, 968 (9th Cir. 2006). We affirm.

The district court properly dismissed Stucker's action for failure to comply with Rule 8 because, despite an opportunity to amend, Stucker's operative second amended complaint was prolix, confusing, and failed to allege clearly the bases for his claims. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a)(2) (a pleading must contain "a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief"); *Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 555 (2007) (Rule 8 requires the complaint "give the defendant fair notice of what the . . . claim is and the grounds upon which it rests" (alteration in original, citation and internal quotation marks omitted)); *McHenry v. Renne*, 84 F.3d 1172, 1177-78 (9th Cir. 1996) (a complaint that is "argumentative, prolix, replete with redundancy, and largely irrelevant" does not comply with Rule 8; if "one cannot determine from the complaint who is being sued, and for what relief, and on what theory" then the complaint violates Rule 8).

The district court did not abuse its discretion by denying further leave to amend because amendment would have been futile. *See Cervantes v. Countrywide Home Loans, Inc.*, 656 F.3d 1034, 1041 (9th Cir. 2011) (setting forth standard of review and explaining that leave to amend may be denied when amendment would be futile); *Metzler Inv. GMBH v. Corinthian Colls., Inc.*, 540 F.3d 1049, 1072 (9th Cir. 2008) (explaining that "the district court's discretion to deny leave to amend is

particularly broad where plaintiff has previously amended the complaint” (citation and internal quotation marks omitted)).

The district court did not abuse its discretion by denying Stucker’s motion to disqualify the district judge because Stucker failed to establish any ground for disqualification. *See United States v. McTiernan*, 695 F.3d 882, 891-92 (9th Cir. 2012) (setting forth standard of review and circumstances requiring disqualification).

We do not consider as outside the scope of this appeal Stucker’s contentions that Chief Judge Thomas improperly dismissed Stucker’s judicial misconduct complaint against the district judge.

Stucker’s motion to disqualify the district judge and motion to transmit physical exhibit are denied.

**AFFIRMED.**