

## **Central District of Illinois**

### **Civil prisoner cases needing Pro Bono Counsel (May 2022)**

*Any attorney interested in helping as Pro Bono counsel may contact the Pro Bono Coordinator for the Central District of Illinois, Marleen Cooke at 217-492-5204 or [Marleen\\_Cooke@ilcd.uscourts.gov](mailto:Marleen_Cooke@ilcd.uscourts.gov).*

*The Central District of Illinois Plan for Recruitment of Counsel has a cap of \$1,000.00 for reimbursement of expenses.*

### **Sherrod v. Tilden 17-1122**

Plaintiff proceeds pro se from his incarceration in the Pontiac Correctional Center. Plaintiff states an Eighth Amendment claim for deliberate indifference to his serious medical needs.

### **Clark v Wexford 18-1367**

Plaintiff pro se Calvin Clark is incarcerated at Menard Correctional Center, filed a complaint under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 [1], alleging constitutional violations during his incarceration at Pontiac Correctional Center. Plaintiff asserts that (1) Defendant corrections officers Joshua Davis, James Fike, and Joel Newkirk kicked and punched Plaintiff while he was restrained and with the knowledge that Plaintiff had a heart condition, (2) Defendant nurse Jade Culkin ignored Plaintiff's chest pains, and (3) Defendant physician Riliwan Ojelade permitted Plaintiff's postsurgery incision to become infected. After screening Plaintiff's complaint, the Court determined that Plaintiff had sufficiently alleged the following Eighth Amendment claims: (1) excessive force against Davis, Fike, and Newkirk and (2) deliberate indifference to a serious medical need against Culkin and Ojelade. The Court later concluded that Defendants Culkin and Ojelade were entitled to summary judgment on Plaintiff's deliberate indifference claims and referred for settlement Plaintiff's excessive force claim. Defendants Davis, Fike, and Newkirk later moved to cancel the settlement conference and proceed to trial.

### **May v. Tilden, 19-1199.**

Plaintiff is incarcerated at Danville Correctional center and states that due to his medical condition and treatment (he is undergoing chemo) he can no longer litigate this case himself. His Complaint states a single claim of deliberate indifference towards his serious medical needs in violation of his Eighth Amendment rights

### **Wilborn v Meeks, et al. 19-1202**

Plaintiff alleges that a prison medical staff failed to provide and delayed adequate medical treatment for a condition that caused frequent shoulder dislocations that eventually required surgery. Plaintiff's Eighth Amendment claims against the prison doctor, physician's assistant, IDOC medical director, and a prison nurse have survived summary judgment. The case is currently set for final pretrial conference and jury trial on August 1, 2022, and August 30, 2022, respectively.

### **March v. Burns, 21-1276**

Plaintiff is incarcerated at Lawrence Correctional Center. Plaintiff's complaint alleges that Defendants beat him up for no reason at the Peoria County Jail, and then, they would not obtain medical attention

for his injuries. Plaintiff states that he lacks the legal skills necessary to litigate this case on his own. In fact, Plaintiff claims that he is illiterate and that someone else drafted the Complaint for him.

**Adams v. Greene, 21-3155**

Plaintiff has sued alleging a violation of his Eighth Amendment rights based upon the conditions of his confinement. According to Plaintiff, the cells at Western Illinois are subject to extreme temperatures—both hot and cold—and that the vents and showers at Western Illinois are filthy. Plaintiff avers that the conditions at Western Illinois are especially harmful to him because he suffers from ulcerative colitis. Defendants have filed a motion for summary judgment and argue that Plaintiff failed to exhaust his administrative remedies properly before he filed suit. If counsel does volunteer, he or she will need to file a response to that motion for summary judgment.

**Adams v. Seals, 21-3163**

Plaintiff is incarcerated at Western Illinois Correction. Plaintiff's Complaint has two claims: (1) a First Amendment retaliation claim and (2) a deliberate indifference claim to his serious medical needs in violation of his Eighth Amendment rights.

**Valdez v. Wexford Health Sources Inc. 20-4216**

The plaintiff is detained in the Rushville Treatment and Detention Center and is pursuing a claim arising from an alleged failure to treat debilitating back pain. He is allegedly confined to a wheelchair. Appointment will be limited to responding to the summary judgment motions.