

Central District of Illinois

Civil prisoner cases needing Pro Bono Counsel (October 2021)

17-1453 – Snyder v Tilden - Plaintiff alleges deliberate indifference against one Defendant, Dr. Andrew Tilden. On August 19, 2016, Plaintiff fell from the top bunk in his cell and appears to have broken several metatarsal bones in his foot. Defendant Tilden claims that he was not aware of Plaintiff's injury until August 31, 2016, the date he first saw plaintiff. This case is proceeding on the following issues: 1) When did Dr. Tilden first become aware of Plaintiff's injury?; 2) Was Dr. Tilden aware of the recommendation that Plaintiff be referred to an orthopedic specialist and, if so, did he believe that this referral was necessary?; 3) Did Dr. Tilden provide adequate and appropriate treatment for the injury and accompanying pain? All discovery is done, and the case is not currently set for trial.

19-1086 – Walker v Davis, et al. *Synopsis:* In June 2018, Defendant Joshua P. Davis escorted Plaintiff, who was handcuffed and shackled, to his cell. Davis told Plaintiff that he was upset because Plaintiff had recently filed a grievance against him. After Plaintiff arrived at his cell, he knelt as instructed, and Davis removed the shackles. Plaintiff, still handcuffed, started to get up, but Davis kicked him in his back, which caused Plaintiff's chin to hit the concrete floor. When Plaintiff rolled over onto his back, he saw Davis kicking him. Davis eventually lifted Plaintiff to his feet, removed the handcuffs, and left. *Claims:* Eighth Amendment excessive force and retaliation against Defendant Davis.

19-1191 – Barkes v Wexford Plaintiff asserts that he suffers from mental illness, anxiety, depression, memory loss, nerve damage, and shakes and tremors, from the long-term use of Klonopin, the factual underpinning of the case. Plaintiff asserts that he was kept on Klonopin, at benzodiazepine medication, for 10 years when it should only be used in the short term. Plaintiff alleges that the defendant psychiatrists and psychologists knew of the risk of serious side effects but did not reveal these to him, did not try alternative medication and did not try to wean him off of the Klonopin. He claims that in December 2017, the Klonopin was abruptly discontinued, causing him to experience seizures and develop a residual seizure disorder.

20-1034 Wright v Hubert, et al. *Synopsis:* In January 2018, Plaintiff transferred to Pontiac because he had assaulted a corrections officer at Stateville Correctional Center. After arriving, Defendants Collier, Gross, Hubert, Molinero, and Smith escorted Plaintiff, who was handcuffed and shackled, to a segregation cell. Smith ordered Plaintiff to walk to the back of the cell, kneel, and place his nose in the corner of the cell. After Plaintiff complied, Collier and Smith choked and punched Plaintiff as Defendant Gross stood on Plaintiff's legs. Hubert and Molinero observed but did not intervene. Plaintiff stated that

he did not resist during this incident. *Claims*: Eighth Amendment excessive force against Defendants Collier, Gross, and Smith; failure to intervene against Defendants Hubert and Molinero.

21-1135 James v Jackson, et al. Plaintiff proceeds pro se from his incarceration in Pontiac Correctional Center on Eighth Amendment claims of deliberate indifference to his serious medical needs. The case is in the process of discovery. The parties have consented to having a Magistrate Judge preside. Discovery closes December 20, 2021. Several motions are pending. Plaintiff has renewed his request for a preliminary injunction to be sent to a specialist to determine the cause of Plaintiff's pain. Plaintiff alleges that he is suffering ongoing extreme pain in his lower side, lower abdomen, lower back, liver area, right lung, gallbladder area, and numbed right arm . . .constant dizziness, nausea, vomiting, fatigue, vague stomach pain, and constant severe headaches. Plaintiff believes these problems may be caused by Hepatitis A, B, and C.

20-3155 Walker v Scott, et al. Plaintiff Mark Walker is currently incarcerated at Sheridan Correctional Center, but the alleged claim occurred at Western Illinois Correctional Center ("Western"). Plaintiff, who is legally blind, explains that the Illinois Correctional Industries ("ICI") is a job training program that permits eligible inmates to learn a skill while earning income and a half-day of good time credit for each day in the program. Plaintiff claims that Western prohibits inmates with disabilities from participating in the ICI program even if they can perform the training and the work assignments. Specifically, Plaintiff claims that he was denied Food Handler Status because of his disability, which states a claim under the American with Disabilities Act.

20-4027 Dixon v Wexford - The Plaintiff has two claims: (1) a deliberate indifference claim in violation of Plaintiff's Eighth Amendment rights against Dr. Johnathan Eck and Nurse Practitioner S. Steele based upon their treatment (or lack thereof) of his lymphoma and (2) a Monell claim against Defendant Wexford Health Sources, Inc.