

14-1343 – Walker v C/O Price, et al. - This is a claim by an IDOC prisoner for excessive force, failure to intervene, and failure to provide medical attention for alleged injuries from that excessive force. The plaintiff alleges in his complaint that, on August 21, 2013 in Pontiac Correctional Center, an officer, while Plaintiff was shackled, “forcefully put his knee on Plaintiff’s head and neck and then began to bounce up and down on plaintiff causing plaintiff to instantly endure excruciating pain and swelling to the right side of plaintiff’s head and orbital bone.” Another officer allegedly bent back Plaintiff’s hand. (Complaint para. 18; 12/10/14 merit review order.) The first jury trial, held by video, returned a verdict for defendants but was reversed for the failure to recruit pro bono counsel for the plaintiff. The Court has been and is still trying to find pro bono counsel for the second trial. This may be a good case for an attorney looking for trial experience. The trial is expected to last two to three days. Proposed jury instructions have already been circulated to the parties. Pro bono counsel may appear by video for all court hearings except for the jury selection and trial. The jury trial is currently set for November 30, 2021.

19-1402 – Williams v Molinerio, et al.- Plaintiff William has three claims: (1) an excessive force claim, in violation of his Eighth Amendment rights, against all named Defendants; (2) a First Amendment retaliation claim against Defendant Sgt. Baylor; and (3) a conditions of confinement claim, in violation of his Eighth Amendment rights, against Defendant Sgt. Baylor. Defendants did not file a motion for summary judgment. (Bruce/Chapman)20 – 1367 - Plaintiff alleges that medical staff Pontiac Correctional Center failed to provide him with adequate medical care for conditions later diagnosed as Vasculitis and Reversible Cerebral Syndrome and Cerebral Vascular accident. The injuries allegedly resulted from an incident where a John Doe defendant denied Plaintiff’s request for a crisis team, causing Plaintiff to swallow 30 pills and cut himself. Plaintiff alleges that he could not speak or walk as a result of these conditions. Plaintiff alleges that several John Doe officers pulled, punched, choked, and kicked him because he could not comply with their orders to walk or respond to their demands and that Defendants retaliated against him for filing grievances. The Court found that Plaintiff stated Eighth Amendment claims for deliberate indifference to a serious medical need and excessive force, and a First Amendment retaliation claim. The case is currently in the discovery stage.

19-3067 Bolden v Barcily - Plaintiff alleges that prison officials told other inmates that he was a sex offender. Plaintiff alleges that this, in turn, caused some inmates to attack him and others to offer protection in exchange for sexual favors and money. Plaintiff alleges that defendants failed to address his concerns and told him to break the rules by refusing housing. The Court found that Plaintiff stated an Eighth Amendment claim for failure to protect from harm. The case is currently pending Plaintiff’s response to Defendants’ motion for summary judgment. Jury trial and other hearing dates will be set, if necessary, after the Court rules upon Defendants’ motion.

18-3321 Vera-Ortegon v Rettenmier, et al. - Plaintiff alleges that he is a type 1 diabetic. On the evening of September 8, 2017, in Western Illinois Correctional Center, Plaintiff allegedly began experiencing symptoms consistent with a hypoglycemic episode. Plaintiff allegedly told Defendant Rettenmier that Plaintiff needed emergency medical attention, but Defendant Rettenmier advised Plaintiff to wait 20 minutes until the nurse came around for medicine rounds. By the time the nurse came around with Defendant Rettenmier, Plaintiff's condition had worsened. Plaintiff yelled that he was diabetic, was losing the feeling in his face and hands and needed emergency help, but Defendant Rettenmier and the nurse allegedly ignored Plaintiff, walking away. Plaintiff's cellmate and other inmates on the wing began kicking their doors to try to obtain help for Plaintiff to no avail. Plaintiff was allegedly left overnight with no treatment. The next morning, Plaintiff was taken to the health care unit, barely able to walk or speak and with a blood sugar level of 38. While the nurse was treating Plaintiff, Plaintiff began having seizures. Plaintiff's medical condition allegedly took one month to stabilize. The Wexford Defendants did not file a summary judgment motion. A motion for summary judgment by a IDOC defendant Rettenmier is pending and awaits a ruling. Plaintiff is currently detained in the Glades County Detention Center in Moore Haven, Florida.

19-3144 Scaggs v Baldwin, et al. - Plaintiff proceeds pro se from his incarceration in Western Illinois Correctional Center on religious practice claims under the First Amendment, RLUIPA,1 and the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Plaintiff was disciplined for leading the Muslim noon prayer in the prison yard by positioning himself in front of two other inmates.

18-4186 Turley v Lindorff, et al - The plaintiff claims that he has rheumatoid arthritis which causes severe pain and difficulty functioning. Eighth Amendment claims for deliberate indifference to Plaintiff's serious medical needs and a Rehabilitation Act claim for denial of services based on disability survive summary judgment. The final pretrial and trial dates were vacated in order to give time to try to find pro bono counsel. A status conference is set for October 18, 2021. The plaintiff is currently incarcerated in Hill Correctional Center.

19-4055 Walker v Wexford Health Source - The plaintiff in this case is detained in the Rushville Treatment and Detention Center. He alleges constitutionally inadequate care for sleep apnea. The case has survived summary judgment, and a final pretrial conference before Judge Harold A. Baker will be held in September, when the trial date will be set. This case may offer a good opportunity to gain trial experience.