

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
ILLINOIS

Kejuan I. Jenkins v. Anthony Wills, Joshua Schoenbeck, Thomas
Quinn, and Christopher Garcia

Jenkins · No. 24-cv-00476-SPM · Decided March 12, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois granted Defendants’ motion for summary judgment on exhaustion grounds in Kejuan Jenkins’s 42 U.S.C. § 1983 action. The court held that Jenkins failed to properly exhaust administrative remedies for his Eighth Amendment excessive-force and conditions-of-confinement claims under the Prison Litigation Reform Act. The case was dismissed without prejudice and the Clerk was directed to close the case.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Stephen P. McGlynn
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois
DECIDED	March 12, 2026
DOCKET	24-cv-00476-SPM
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff brought an action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 alleging Eighth Amendment violations while incarcerated. Defendants moved for summary judgment on the issue of exhaustion of administrative remedies, and Plaintiff filed no opposition.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Summary judgment is proper when there is no genuine dispute of material fact and the movant is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. The court views the facts and draws reasonable inferences in favor of the nonmoving party, subject to treating properly undisputed facts as admitted under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 56(e).
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished district court memorandum and order; precedential status unknown
PARTIES	Kejuan I. Jenkins v. Anthony Wills, Joshua Schoenbeck, Thomas Quinn, Christopher Garcia

TOPICS

summary judgment

prisoners rights

section 1983

civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

civil procedure

prisoner civil rights

constitutional law

summary judgment

administrative exhaustion

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Defendants were entitled to summary judgment because Plaintiff failed to exhaust available administrative remedies under the Prison Litigation Reform Act.
2. Whether Plaintiff's grievances sufficiently alerted prison officials to the alleged excessive force and segregation-condition claims.
3. Whether Plaintiff's failure to respond to the summary-judgment motion permitted the court to deem Defendants' properly supported material facts admitted.

HOLDINGS

1. A prisoner must exhaust available administrative remedies before filing an action concerning prison conditions under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, and exhaustion requires compliance with the prison's applicable grievance procedures.
2. Plaintiff failed to exhaust Counts 1, 3, 4, and 6 because the grievances he appealed either did not identify or describe the alleged force and segregation mistreatment or were procedurally deficient.
3. Because Plaintiff failed to respond after receiving notice of the consequences, the court could treat Defendants' properly asserted material facts as undisputed for purposes of summary judgment.

KEY QUOTATIONS

"To exhaust remedies, a prisoner must file complaints and appeals in the place, and at the time, the prison's administrative rules require."

"The Motion for Summary Judgment is granted."

"This case is DISMISSED without prejudice for failure to exhaust."

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiff alleged that correctional officers Garcia and Quinn used mace and physical force against him on April 2, 2022, removed his mattress, manipulated the water supply to his cell, and subjected him to unsanitary segregation conditions. He further alleged that Garcia punched him on April 6, 2022, after Plaintiff reported the alleged misconduct, and that Schoenbeck later directed that Plaintiff's mattress be sprayed with mace and his cell water be shut off in July 2023. Plaintiff appealed four grievances to the Administrative Review Board, but only one complied with the grievance procedures, and that grievance concerned the disciplinary report rather than the alleged force or confinement conditions.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

After a merit review under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A, Plaintiff proceeded on Eighth Amendment excessive-force and cruel-and-unusual-punishment claims arising from alleged mistreatment at Menard Correctional Center. Defendants Wills, Quinn, Garcia, and Schoenbeck moved for summary judgment based on failure to exhaust administrative remedies. The court deemed the motion's material facts admitted because Plaintiff did not respond, granted summary judgment, and dismissed the action without prejudice.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- Celotex Corp. v. Catrett, 477 U.S. 317, 322 (1986)
- Apex Digital, Inc. v. Sears, Roebuck & Co., 735 F.3d 962, 965 (7th Cir. 2013)
- Dole v. Chandler, 438 F.3d 804, 809 (7th Cir. 2006)
- Pozo v. McCaughtry, 286 F.3d 1022, 1023–25 (7th Cir. 2002)
- Ford v. Johnson, 362 F.3d 395, 398 (7th Cir. 2004)
- Smith v. Lamz, 321 F.3d 680, 683 (7th Cir. 2003)
- Flynn v. Sandahl, 58 F.3d 283, 288 (7th Cir. 1995)
- Pyles v. Nwaobasi, 829 F.3d 860, 867 (7th Cir. 2016)
- Cannon v. Washington, 418 F.3d 714, 719 (7th Cir. 2005)