

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
MISSISSIPPI, EASTERN DIVISION

University Mall, LLC v. Okorie

University Mall v. Okorie · No. 2:24-cv-91-TBM-MTP · Decided May 27, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi ruled on University Mall, LLC’s motion for attorney fees and Dr. Ikechukwu Okorie’s motion for leave to seek limited fee discovery. The court denied the attorney-fee motion without prejudice to refiling and denied the motion for limited fee discovery.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi, Eastern Division
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Taylor B. McNeel
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi, Eastern Division
DECIDED	May 27, 2026
DOCKET	2:24-cv-91-TBM-MTP
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The court ruled on University Mall, LLC's motion for attorney fees and Dr. Okorie's motion for leave to seek narrow, limited fee discovery.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unknown

TOPICS

- attorney fees
- discovery dispute
- commercial litigation
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- attorney fees
- discovery
- commercial litigation

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether University Mall, LLC's motion for attorney fees should be granted.

2. Whether Dr. Okorie should be granted leave to seek narrow, limited discovery concerning attorney fees.

HOLDINGS

1. The motion for attorney fees was denied without prejudice to refiling.
2. The motion for leave to seek narrow, limited fee discovery was denied.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“IT IS ORDERED that University Mall, LLC’s Motion for Attorney Fees [294] is DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE to refiling.” (Order)

“IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Okorie’s Motion for Leave to Seek Narrow Limited Fee Discovery [301] is DENIED.” (Order)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The opinion concerns a dispute in which University Mall, LLC sought attorney fees and Dr. Okorie sought leave to conduct limited discovery concerning fees. The court noted Dr. Okorie’s extensive litigation history and referenced prior sanctions-related proceedings, but the written order does not state the underlying merits facts or the court’s detailed fee analysis.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The court considered the parties’ pleadings, the record, oral argument, and legal authority at a hearing on May 27, 2026. The court stated that its detailed findings and legal conclusions were announced from the bench and contained in the hearing transcript. It denied the attorney-fee motion without prejudice to refiling and denied the motion for limited fee discovery.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- University Mall, LLC v. Okorie, No. 2:24-cv-91-KS, 2025 WL 2978874 (S.D. Miss. Oct. 22, 2025)
- In re Okorie, No. 19-50379-KMS, 2024 WL 5688801 (Bankr. S.D. Miss. Mar. 25, 2024)
- 2024 WL 4186937 (S.D. Miss. Sep. 9, 2024)
- 2024 WL 4867073 (5th Cir. Nov. 22, 2024)

OPINION

Okorie

PER CURIAM.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI

EASTERN DIVISION
UNIVERSITY MALL, LLC PLAINTIFF
v. CIVIL ACTION NO. 2:24-cv-91-TBM-MTP
IKECHUKWU OKORIE; ROYAL OAKS
RENTAL PROPERTIES, LLC; INLAND
FAMILY PRACTICE, LLC DEFENDANTS
ORDER

This matter came before the Court on University Mall, LLC's Motion for Attorney Fees [294] and Dr. Okorie's Motion for Leave to Seek Narrow Limited Fee Discovery [301]. At the hearing conducted on May 27, 2026, the Court considered the pleadings, the record, the oral arguments of the parties, and the relevant legal authority. Then, the Court announced on the record its detailed findings and conclusions.¹ To be clear, all legal analysis and authority was announced from the bench and is contained in the hearing transcript. For all of the reasons contained in the hearing transcript: 1 As previously described by this Court, and others, Dr. Okorie is a litigious pro se plaintiff. In the last several years, Dr. Okorie has filed more than thirty civil actions in the Southern District of Mississippi alone. The undersigned has presided over fifteen separate cases with Dr. Okorie—the vast majority of which involve the 3700 Hardy Street property; as do the other cases filed in this District involving Dr. Okorie. A Westlaw search also shows that dozens of opinions from various judges have addressed deficiencies in the claims or defenses raised by Dr. Okorie. Indeed, the undersigned has authored many of those. As a result, it is unnecessary for this Court to provide an additional written opinion on this matter. A ruling from the bench more than suffices. To further illustrate Dr. Okorie's litigious nature, he has filed more than twenty separate appeals to the Fifth Circuit, and even a few appeals to the United States Supreme Court. In addition to filing actions in the Eastern District of Texas, Dr. Okorie has also filed actions in the state courts of Mississippi, Texas, Florida, New York, and New Jersey. Through these numerous actions, Dr. Okorie has incurred sanction warnings and sanctions orders. *University Mall, LLC v. Okorie*, No. 2:24-cv-91-KS, 2025 WL 2978874 (S.D. Miss. Oct. 22, 2025); see also *In re Okorie*, No. 19- 50379-KMS, 2024 WL 5688801 (Bankr. S.D. Miss. Mar. 25, 2024), *aff'd*, No. 2:24-cv-51-KS-MTP, 2024 WL 4186937 (S.D. Miss. Sep. 9, 2024), *aff'd*, No. 24-60469, 2024 WL 4867073 (5th Cir. Nov. 22, 2024). IT IS ORDERED that University Mall, LLC's Motion for Attorney Fees [294] is DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE to refiling. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Okorie's Motion for Leave to Seek Narrow Limited Fee Discovery [301] is DENIED. This, the 27th day of May, 2026. _____

TAYLOR B. McNEEL
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE