

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
OKLAHOMA

Ashley D. Adams v. E-Z Mart Stores, Inc.; E-Z Mart Stores, Inc. v.
LSC Ventures, Inc. d/b/a ProCore Fuel Solutions

Adams · No. 23-CV-278-RAW · Decided March 10, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Oklahoma ruled on Plaintiff Ashley D. Adams’s First Omnibus Motion in Limine. The court granted the motion as to references to workers’ compensation death benefits but denied it as to evidence concerning the decedent’s methamphetamine use, possible impairment, and dental health history.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Oklahoma
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Ronald A. White
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Oklahoma
DECIDED	March 10, 2026
DOCKET	23-CV-278-RAW
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The court ruled on Plaintiff's First Omnibus Motion in Limine before trial.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Evidentiary rulings on motions in limine are subject to the court's discretion and may be changed as the case unfolds at trial.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished pretrial district-court order; precedential status is unknown.
PARTIES	Ashley D. Adams v. E-Z Mart Stores, Inc.

TOPICS

- [motion in limine](#)
- [evidence](#)
- [relevance](#)
- [character evidence](#)

PRACTICE AREAS

- [evidence](#)
- [civil procedure](#)

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether references to Plaintiff's receipt of workers' compensation death benefits should be excluded under the collateral-source rule and Federal Rule of Evidence 408.
2. Whether references to the decedent's historical methamphetamine use or possible impairment on the day of his death should be excluded under Federal Rules of Evidence 401 and 403.
3. Whether references to the decedent's dental-health history and any relationship to drug use should be excluded under Federal Rule of Evidence 403.

HOLDINGS

1. References to Plaintiff's workers' compensation payments following Mr. Adams's death were excluded because the court was not persuaded that the payments were admissible under the collateral-source rule and Federal Rule of Evidence 408.
2. The motion to exclude references to the decedent's historical methamphetamine use or possible impairment on the day of his death was denied under Federal Rules of Evidence 401 and 403.
3. The motion to exclude references to the decedent's dental-health history and its possible relationship to drug use was denied under Federal Rule of Evidence 403.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“However, “the district court may change its ruling at any time for whatever reason it deems appropriate.””

“Therefore, Plaintiff’s First Omnibus Motion in Limine [Dkt. No. 96] is hereby GRANTED in part and DENIED in part.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The motion concerned evidence relating to workers' compensation death benefits allegedly received by Plaintiff after Mr. Adams's death, the decedent's historical methamphetamine use and possible impairment on the day of his death, and the decedent's dental-health history and its possible relationship to drug use. The parties disputed whether the evidence was admissible for purposes other than proving an offset and whether the evidence satisfied the Federal Rules of Evidence.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff moved to exclude several categories of evidence before trial. Defendant opposed the motion, and E-Z Mart Stores, Inc. appeared as third-party plaintiff against LSC Ventures, Inc. The court granted the motion in part and denied it in part.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Mendelsohn v. Sprint/United Management Co., 587 F. Supp. 2d 1201, 1208 (D. Kan. 2008)
- Mendelsohn v. Sprint/United Management Co., 402 F. App'x 337 (10th Cir. 2010)
- Jones v. Stotts, 59 F.3d 143, 146 (10th Cir. 1995)
- Luce v. United States, 469 U.S. 38, 41 (1984)

OPINION

Adams

PER CURIAM.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

ASHLEY D. ADAMS

Plaintiff, v. Case No. 23-CV-278-RAW

E-Z MART STORES, INC.,

Defendant E-Z MART STORES, INC. Third Party Plaintiff v.

LSC VENTURES, INC., D/B/A PROCORE

FUEL SOLUTIONS

Third-Party Defendant

ORDER

Before the court is Plaintiff's First Omnibus Motion in Limine. Dkt. No. 96. Plaintiff has properly certified that counsel conferred with Defense Counsel but were unable to reach an agreement. For the foregoing reasons, the motion is GRANTED in part and DENIED in part. Motions in limine are permitted under the Federal Rules of Evidence to allow the Court to decide evidentiary issues in advance of trial, avoid delay, ensure fairness, and narrow down the evidentiary issues. *Mendelsohn v. Sprint/United Mgmt. Co.*, 587 F. Supp. 2d 1201, 1208 (D. Kan. 2008), *aff'd*, 402 F. App'x 337 (10th Cir. 2010). However, "the district court may change its ruling at any time for whatever reason it deems appropriate." *Jones v. Stotts*, 59 F.3d 143, 146 (10th Cir. 1995) (citations omitted); see also *Luce*, 469 U.S. at 41 ("The ruling is subject to change when the case unfolds ... [E]ven if nothing unexpected happens at trial, the district judge is free, in the exercise of sound judicial discretion, to alter a previous in limine ruling.") Plaintiff raises the following Motions in Limine: Motion in Limine No. 1: Collateral Source for Workers' Compensation Death Benefits. Plaintiff seeks to exclude references to the fact that the Plaintiff previously received workers' compensation benefits following Mr. Adams' death. Defendant argues that evidence of other payments may be introduced for reasons other than to demonstrate an offset. Additionally, Defendant contends that there is evidence of additional payments from ProCore to Plaintiff occurring outside the context of the workers' compensation case. Based on the parties' arguments, the court is not persuaded that the workers' compensation payments are admissible under the collateral source rule and Rule 408. Therefore, the motion is GRANTED. Motion in Limine No. 2: Plaintiff seeks to exclude references to the Decedent's historical use of methamphetamine or any

suggestion that Mr. Adams may have been impaired on the day of his death. Pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 401 and 403, the motion is DENIED. Motion in Limine No. 3: Plaintiff seeks to exclude references to Mr. Adams' dental health history and any relationship it may have to his drug use. Pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 403, the motion is DENIED. As to all of the evidence and arguments offered by the parties, the Court notes that it will prohibit any arguments and exclude any evidence that violates the Federal Rules of Evidence, and permit only evidence that complies with the rules. Therefore, Plaintiff's First Omnibus Motion in Limine [Dkt. No. 96] is hereby GRANTED in part and DENIED in part. IT IS SO ORDERED on this 10th day of March, 2026.

THE HONORABLE RONALD A. WHITE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
EASTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA