

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF
INDIANA, SOUTH BEND DIVISION**

Tyler J. Arbuckle v. Warden

Arbuckle · No. 3:26-CV-137-PPS-JEM · Decided April 22, 2026

SUMMARY

The court dismissed Tyler J. Arbuckle’s case and preliminary injunction motion as moot after he was transferred from Indiana State Prison to Miami Correctional Facility. Because the action sought injunctive relief and there was no indication that Arbuckle was likely to be transferred back, the court dismissed for lack of jurisdiction.

OPINION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA SOUTH BEND DIVISION TYLER J. ARBUCKLE, Plaintiff, v. CAUSE NO. 3:26-CV-137-PPS-JEM WARDEN, Defendant. OPINION AND ORDER Tyler J. Arbuckle, a prisoner without a lawyer, filed a preliminary injunction motion and I granted him leave to proceed solely “against the Indiana State Prison Warden in his official capacity to obtain permanent injunctive relief to protect him from attack and provide him with constitutionally adequate mental health treatment as required by the Eighth Amendment[.]” ECF 4 at 2-3.

With the Warden’s Amended response to the preliminary injunction motion, he attached his affidavit affirming, “I have recommended what Mr. Arbuckle feels is in his best interest, which is a facility transfer to Miami Correctional Facility.” ECF 17-1 at ¶ 13. Days later, Arbuckle filed a Notice of Change of Address showing he had moved to Miami Correctional Facility.

ECF 19. Arbuckle did not file a reply to the preliminary injunction motion nor otherwise argue he expects to be transferred back to the Indiana State Prison. When “a prisoner is transferred to another prison, his request for injunctive relief against officials of the first prison is moot unless he can demonstrate that he is likely to be retransferred.” *Higgason v. Farley*, 83 F.3d 807, 811 (7th Cir.

1996). Arbuckle could have filed a reply brief arguing he expected to return to Indiana State Prison, but he did not. There is no indication in this record that he will be transferred back there. “Allegations of a likely retransfer may not be based on mere speculation.” *Id.* Here, there is not even speculation that he will return to the Indiana State Prison.

That makes both the preliminary injunction motion and this case moot. A claim that is moot must be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction. See *E.F.L. v. Prim*, 986 F.3d 959, 962 (7th Cir. 2021); see

also *Brown v. Bartholomew Consol. Sch. Corp.*, 442 F.3d 588, 596 (7th Cir. 2006) (“In an action seeking only injunctive relief, this requirement ordinarily means that, once the threat of the act sought to be enjoined dissipates, the suit must be dismissed as moot.”).

For these reasons, this case is DISMISSED AS MOOT for lack of jurisdiction. ENTERED: April 22, 2026. /s/ Philip P. Simon PHILIP P. SIMON, JUDGE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT