

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH
DAKOTA, SOUTHERN DIVISION

Rindahl v. Magstadt

No. 4:26-CV-04024-RAL · No. 4:26-CV-04024-RAL · Decided March 25, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the District of South Dakota denied Randy Lee Rindahl’s request for a preliminary injunction or temporary restraining order. The court held that the submission did not satisfy Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(b) because it did not clearly show immediate injury before the defendants could be heard, and it did not provide sufficiently clear grounds for relief concerning his cellmate selection or an alleged Prison Rape Elimination Act violation.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of South Dakota, Southern Division
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Roberto A. Lange
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the District of South Dakota, Southern Division
DECIDED	March 25, 2026
DOCKET	4:26-CV-04024-RAL
DISPOSITION	denied
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff sought a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	A temporary restraining order under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(b) requires a clear showing of immediate injury before the opposing parties can be heard; preliminary-injunction requests are evaluated under the Dataphase factors.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished district court order with no reported citation; limited persuasive value.
PARTIES	Randy Lee Rindahl v. Melissa Magstadt, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Health, State of South Dakota Department of Corrections Health Services, Unknown Correctional Health Services Clinic Supervisor, A. Haynes, M. Rector, MD, W. Welbig, S. Black, J. Knutson, S. Gottsleben, Desirae Kummer, Lisa Harlan, Leanne

Peterson, Josie Rand, Unknown Jane and John Doe Nurses, Larry Rhoden, State of South Dakota Department of Corrections, A. Pirraglia, J. Roemmich, R. Johnston, Avera McKennan Hospital, S. Woodward, MD, Jane and John Doe personnel radiologist working for Avera McKennan Hospital, Jane and John Doe personnel working for Avera McKennan Hospital, Avera St. Luke's Hospital, L. Lenter, MD, Peter Wei, MD, Yassine Kanaan, MD, J. Luzier, MD, Jane and John Doe personnel working for Avera St. Luke's Hospital, Avera Lincoln County, Jane and John Doe personnel radiologist working for Avera Lincoln County

TOPICS

injunctions prisoners rights civil procedure equitable relief

PRACTICE AREAS

civil procedure prisoners rights equitable relief

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Rindahl was entitled to a temporary restraining order under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(b).
2. Whether Rindahl was entitled to a preliminary injunction concerning the selection of his cellmate.

HOLDINGS

1. A temporary restraining order was not warranted because Rindahl failed to clearly show that immediate injury would occur before the defendants could be heard.
2. Rindahl was not entitled to a preliminary injunction because his submission did not provide clearer reasons supporting relief, did not clearly identify a Prison Rape Elimination Act violation, and principally challenged cellmate selection.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Federal courts do not micromanage cell placements of state inmates.” (at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Randy Lee Rindahl, an inmate at the South Dakota State Penitentiary, challenged the selection of his cellmate and sought emergency injunctive relief. He referenced the Prison Rape Elimination Act but did not clearly identify a violation of that Act. His filing described the Dataphase factors and included a proposed order seeking a hearing on preliminary relief.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Randy Lee Rindahl, an inmate at the South Dakota State Penitentiary, filed materials seeking a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction. The district court denied the request, concluding that the submission did not satisfy Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(b) and did not adequately support preliminary-injunction relief.

DISPOSITION

denied

CASES CITED

- Dataphase Sys., Inc. v. C L Sys., Inc., 640 F.2d 109, 113 (8th Cir. 1981) (en banc)