

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA

Vincent Boyd v. Lee et al.

Case No. 2:25-cv-01424-APG-EJY (D. Nev. Dec. 3, 2025) · No. 2:25-cv-01424-APG-EJY · Decided December 3, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the District of Nevada screened Vincent Boyd’s First Amended Complaint. The court allowed Fourth Amendment excessive-force claims against Officers Beramen, Ceballos, and Miller to proceed, dismissed the false-arrest claim against those officers without prejudice with one final opportunity to amend, and recommended dismissal with prejudice of the discrimination claims. Claims arising from unrelated trespassing arrests were dismissed without prejudice and without leave to amend in this action, permitting separate lawsuits.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of Nevada
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Elayna J. Youchah
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the District of Nevada
DECIDED	December 3, 2025
DOCKET	2:25-cv-01424-APG-EJY
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The court screened Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint after granting leave to proceed in forma pauperis. The magistrate judge issued an order addressing which claims could proceed and a report and recommendation concerning dismissal of other claims.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Screening standard applicable to an in forma pauperis complaint; the court liberally construed the pro se allegations but required sufficient factual matter to state a plausible claim for relief.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unknown
PARTIES	Vincent Boyd v. Lee et al., Scott Lee, North Las Vegas Police Officers Miller, Beramen, Ceballos, Benes, and Hann

TOPICS

- section 1983
- civil rights
- police misconduct
- civil procedure
- joinder

PRACTICE AREAS

civil rights

constitutional law

federal civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Boyd stated a claim under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 or Title II of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 against Planet Fitness manager Scott Lee.
2. Whether Boyd adequately pleaded discrimination claims against the individual police officers.
3. Whether Boyd adequately pleaded a Fourth Amendment false-arrest claim against Officers Miller, Ceballos, and Beramen.
4. Whether Boyd adequately pleaded a Fourth Amendment excessive-force claim against Officers Miller, Ceballos, and Beramen.
5. Whether claims arising from unrelated trespassing arrests involving Officers Benes, Hann, and other officers could be joined in the same action under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 20.

HOLDINGS

1. Boyd failed to state a claim against Scott Lee. Calling or summoning the police did not transform the private manager into a state actor, and Lee was not himself a place of public accommodation under Title II.
2. Boyd failed to state discrimination claims against Officers Beramen, Ceballos, Miller, Benes, and Hann because he did not allege facts showing how or on what basis discrimination occurred.
3. Boyd failed to plead sufficient facts to show that the Planet Fitness encounter constituted an arrest or that any arrest lacked probable cause. The false-arrest claim was dismissed without prejudice, with one final opportunity to amend.
4. Boyd stated a Fourth Amendment excessive-force claim against Officers Beramen, Ceballos, and Miller, which could proceed.
5. Claims arising from unrelated trespassing arrests at different locations and involving different officers could not be joined in this lawsuit because they did not arise from the same transaction or occurrence or share sufficient common questions of law or fact.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The “reasonableness” of a particular seizure, including an arrest of a person, “depends not only on when it is made, but also on how it is carried out.”” (at 3)

“The “most important” factor in assessing the reasonableness of a seizure is whether the individual posed an immediate threat to the safety of the officers or others.” (at 3)

““[U]nrelated claims against different defendants belong in separate lawsuits.”” (at 4)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Boyd alleged that Scott Lee, a Planet Fitness manager, called police after Boyd was shaving in a Planet Fitness locker room and refused to provide identification. Boyd alleged that Officers Beramen, Miller, and Ceballos then grabbed him, knocked his phone from his hand, tased him, and forced him onto his stomach, causing physical injuries. He also alleged separate trespassing arrests at Planet Fitness locations, a Smith's grocery store, and Craig Ranch Regional Park involving other officers.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff's original Complaint asserted several claims, two of which were dismissed without prejudice with leave to amend. Plaintiff then filed a First Amended Complaint asserting claims against new defendants and additional allegations concerning several arrests. The court screened the FAC, allowed the Fourth Amendment excessive-force claim against Officers Beramen, Ceballos, and Miller to proceed, dismissed the false-arrest claim against those officers without prejudice with one final opportunity to amend, and recommended dismissal of the discrimination claims and unrelated trespassing-arrest claims.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Monell v. Department of Social Services, 436 U.S. 658, 690-95 (1978)
- Collins v. Womancare, 878 F.2d 1145, 1155 (9th Cir. 1989)
- Sherrell v. Bank of America, N.A., Case No. CV F 11-1785-LJO (JLT), 2011 WL 6749765, at *4 (E.D. Cal. Dec. 22, 2011)
- Richards v. Harper, 864 F.2d 85, 88 (9th Cir. 1988)
- Ivey v. Board of Regents of University of Alaska, 673 F.2d 266, 268 (9th Cir. 1982)
- Lacey v. Maricopa County, 693 F.3d 896, 918 (9th Cir. 2012)
- Hopkins v. City of Sierra Vista, Ariz., 931 F.2d 524, 527 (9th Cir. 1991)
- Graham v. Connor, 490 U.S. 386, 395, 397 (1989)
- Miller v. Clark County, 340 F.3d 959, 964 (9th Cir. 2003)
- Glenn v. Wash. County, 673 F.3d 864, 872 (9th Cir. 2011)
- Bryan v. MacPherson, 630 F.3d 805, 826 (9th Cir. 2010)
- Luchtel v. Hagemann, 623 F.3d 975, 980 (9th Cir. 2010)
- Jacobs v. CDCR, Case No. 1:17-cv-01599-DAD-JLTPC, 2019 WL 6827635, at *3 (E.D. Cal. Dec. 13, 2019)
- Owens v. Hinsley, 635 F.3d 950, 952 (7th Cir. 2011)
- Visendi v. Bank of America, N.A., 733 F.3d 863, 870 (9th Cir. 2013)
- Thomas v. Arn, 474 U.S. 140, 142 (1985)
- Martinez v. Ylst, 951 F.2d 1153, 1157 (9th Cir. 1991)
- Britt v. Simi Valley United School District, 708 F.2d 452, 454 (9th Cir. 1983)

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