

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
LOUISIANA

Dwayne Anthony Cook v. Christopher Hudson and Ingram
Industries, Inc.

Cook v. Hudson · No. No. 24-2916 · Decided December 9, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana grants defendants’ motion for summary judgment in a negligence action arising from a vehicle collision. The court holds that the plaintiff failed to submit or identify admissible evidence creating a genuine dispute that the collision was a cause-in-fact of his alleged injuries.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Sarah S. Vance
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana
DECIDED	December 9, 2025
DOCKET	No. 24-2916
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Defendants moved for summary judgment in a removed diversity tort action, arguing that plaintiff could not produce competent evidence establishing that the vehicle collision was a cause-in-fact of his alleged injuries.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Summary judgment is reviewed under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 56. The court considers the record without weighing evidence or making credibility determinations, draws reasonable inferences for the nonmoving party, and determines whether a genuine dispute of material fact exists.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished district court order

TOPICS

- summary judgment
- negligence
- proximate cause
- personal injury
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

civil procedure

negligence

personal injury

summary judgment

evidence

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether defendants were entitled to summary judgment because Cook failed to submit or identify competent evidence creating a genuine dispute that the collision was a cause-in-fact of his injuries.
2. Whether granting summary judgment constituted an improper discovery sanction based on Cook's failure to make expert disclosures.

HOLDINGS

1. Defendants were entitled to summary judgment because Cook failed to submit or identify admissible, or potentially admissible, evidence establishing a genuine dispute of material fact as to whether the collision was a cause-in-fact of his injuries.
2. Granting summary judgment was not an expert-disclosure sanction because the decision rested on Cook's failure to submit or identify any material supporting causation, not merely on his failure to make expert disclosures.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Summary judgment is warranted when “the movant shows that there is no genuine dispute as to any material fact and the movant is entitled to judgment as a matter of law.””

“Because Cook has not established a genuine issue of material fact as to causation, Cook cannot bear the burden on an essential element of his claim. Thus, defendants are entitled to summary judgment as a matter of law.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

On August 31, 2024, Christopher Hudson was backing an Ingram Industries vehicle out of a private driveway within the scope of his employment when the vehicle contacted Dwayne Anthony Cook's vehicle. Cook alleged that the collision caused his injuries and sued Hudson and Ingram for negligence. In opposing summary judgment, Cook neither submitted nor identified record evidence supporting causation, instead relying on the pleadings and arguing about medical records that were not in the record.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Cook sued Hudson and Ingram in Louisiana state court for injuries allegedly arising from an August 31, 2024 vehicle collision. Defendants removed the action to the Eastern District of Louisiana on December 19, 2024, and later moved for summary judgment. The court granted the motion because Cook failed to submit or identify admissible or potentially admissible evidence creating a genuine dispute on causation.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Celotex Corp. v. Catrett, 477 U.S. 317, 322-23 (1986)
- Delta & Pine Land Co. v. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Co., 530 F.3d 395, 398-99 (5th Cir. 2008)
- Galindo v. Precision American Corp., 754 F.2d 1212, 1216 (5th Cir. 1985)
- EEOC v. Simbaki, Ltd., 767 F.3d 475, 481 (5th Cir. 2014)
- Campbell v. Orient-Express Hotels Louisiana, Inc., 403 So. 3d 573, 580 (La. 2025)
- Stelly v. Department of Public Safety & Corrections, 149 F.4th 516, 521 (5th Cir. 2025)
- Lindsey v. Sears Roebuck & Co., 16 F.3d 616, 618 (5th Cir. 1994)

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