

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
WISCONSIN

Quaa'sheem A. Chambers v. Matthew Miles

Chambers v. Miles · No. 25-CV-1024 · Decided February 19, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin granted Defendant Matthew Miles's motion to dismiss a Fourteenth Amendment excessive-force claim brought by self-represented Plaintiff Quaa'sheem A. Chambers. The court concluded that the alleged failure to remove Chambers's restraints was negligence rather than purposeful, knowing, or reckless use of force, and also granted the motion as a sanction for Chambers's failure to respond to the motion.

OPINION

Chambers

PER CURIAM.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN
QUAA'SHEEM A. CHAMBERS,
Plaintiff, v. Case No. 25-CV-1024
MATTHEW MILES,
Defendant.

DECISION AND ORDER

Plaintiff Quaa'sheem A. Chambers, who is representing himself, is proceeding on a Fourteenth Amendment excessive force claim in connection with allegations that Correctional Officer Matthew Miles forgot to remove Plaintiff's restraints before placing him in a cell overnight at the Milwaukee County Jail on March 28, 2025. Dkt. Nos. 1 & 7. On January 20, 2026, Defendant filed a motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim. Dkt. No. 13. Defendant argues that his conduct was negligence at most—not purposeful, knowing, or a reckless intent to cause harm—and negligence does not violate the constitution. Dkt. No. 14. Under the Civil Local Rules, Plaintiff's response materials were due February 10, 2026. See Civ. L. R. 7(b) (E.D. Wis.). Plaintiff did not timely respond. The “[f]ailure to comply with the briefing requirements in Civil L. R. 7(a)-(b) may result in sanctions up to and including the Court denying or granting the motion.” See Civ. L. R. 7(d). Additionally, the Court has independently reviewed the complaint, see Dkt. No. 1, and it agrees that the failure to remove Plaintiff's restraints before placing him in a cell overnight was mere negligence. Based on the facts alleged, it appears that Officer Miles intended for another officer to remove Plaintiff's restraints because his shift was ending, and

either Officer Miles forgot to relay the message or that other officer forgot to go back to Plaintiffs cell to remove the restraints. See Dkt. No. 1 at 2 (alleging that Officer Miles said, “Just go in, I’ll have another CO get the belt [because]... I have to...clock out.”). Those allegations amount to negligence; not a purposeful, knowing, or reckless intent to cause harm. See *Kingsley v. Henderickson*, 576 U.S. 389, 396-97 (2015). Given that Officer Miles then “clocked out,” he would not have been personally responsible for whoever ignored Plaintiffs medical call button at 11:25 p.m., 12:25 a.m., 12:50 a.m., and 1:05 a.m. to remove the restraints. See *Burks v. Raemisch*, 555 F.3d 592, 593-94 (7th Cir. 2009) (“Liability depends on each defendant’s knowledge and actions, not on the knowledge or actions of [others].”). The complaint contains no allegations from which the Court can reasonably infer that Officer Miles purposely or knowingly used force against Plaintiff. Plaintiff has therefore failed to state a claim against Officer Miles; and the Court must dismiss this case for failure to state a claim. See *Thomas v. Farley*, 31 F.3d 557, 558-59 (7th Cir. 1994) (“But if a plaintiff does plead particulars [in his complaint], and they show that he has no claim, then he is out of luck—he has pleaded himself out of court.”). Moreover, pursuant to Civ. L. R. 56(b)(9), the Court finds that Plaintiffs failure to respond to Defendant’s motion is sufficient cause for the Court to grant the motion as a sanction for noncompliance with the briefing requirements of the local rules. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Defendant’s motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim (Dkt. No. 13) is GRANTED; and this case is DISMISSED. The Clerk is directed to enter judgment accordingly. Dated in Milwaukee, Wisconsin this 19th day of February, 2026. jun ©. [ee Tighe 0, United States Magistrate Judge