

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
WISCONSIN

**Ryker Louis Shampo v. Oconto County, Carol Kopp, Lt. Mary
Ruechel, Sgt. David Rosenfeldt, CO Christopher Melland, Chad
Angus, Wisconsin County Mutual Company, and Oconto County Jail**

Shampo · No. 25-cv-1742-bbc · Decided February 20, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin screened Ryker Louis Shampo’s second amended 42 U.S.C. § 1983 complaint concerning alleged failure by Oconto County Jail officials to respond to his threats of self-harm. The court allowed Eighth Amendment and state-law negligence claims to proceed against David Rosenfeldt and Christopher Melland, while dismissing the claims against the remaining defendants. The court ordered service and directed the parties to await a scheduling order before beginning discovery.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Byron B. Conway
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin
DECIDED	February 20, 2026
DOCKET	25-cv-1742-bbc
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Screening of a pro se prisoner's second amended complaint under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court screened the complaint under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A and applied the Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a)(2) notice-pleading standard.
PARTIES	Ryker Louis Shampo v. Oconto County, Carol Kopp, Lt. Mary Ruechel, Sgt. David Rosenfeldt, CO Christopher Melland, Chad Angus, Wisconsin County Mutual Company, Oconto County Jail

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether the second amended complaint stated an Eighth Amendment claim against Rosenfeldt and Melland for deliberate indifference to an imminent risk of self-harm.

2. Whether Shampo stated a state-law negligence claim against Rosenfeldt and Melland based on the alleged failure to respond to his threats of self-harm.
3. Whether claims against officials based on denying grievances or allegedly failing to train or supervise stated a claim.
4. Whether the Oconto County Jail was a person subject to liability under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.
5. Whether Oconto County and Wisconsin County Mutual Company could be liable under § 1983 absent allegations of an official policy or custom causing the alleged violation.

HOLDINGS

1. The second amended complaint stated an Eighth Amendment claim against Rosenfeldt and Melland because it alleged that they knew of an objectively serious and imminent risk of self-harm and failed to respond to Shampo's threats.
2. Shampo may proceed with a state-law negligence claim against Rosenfeldt and Melland based on their alleged failure to respond to his threats of self-harm.
3. The complaint did not state claims against Kopp, Ruechel, or Angus based on their dismissal of Shampo's grievances or alleged failure to train or supervise Rosenfeldt and Melland.
4. The Oconto County Jail was not a proper defendant under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 because it was not a person subject to suit under the statute.
5. The complaint did not state a § 1983 claim against Oconto County because it did not allege that the conduct of Rosenfeldt and Melland resulted from an official policy or custom. Wisconsin County Mutual Company was also dismissed.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

On October 14, 2025, while confined at the Oconto County Jail, Shampo was placed in segregation and told Sgt. David Rosenfeldt and CO Christopher Melland that he was suicidal and needed help. He alleged that the officers knew of a prior suicide attempt, failed to search or restrain him, and ignored or failed to respond when he screamed for help while sharpening a pen on a bed frame. Shampo cut his arm for hours and was eventually found by another officer and taken to a hospital for stitches.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Shampo filed a civil-rights complaint under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 concerning alleged failures by Oconto County Jail officials to respond to his threats of self-harm. After screening the amended complaint on January 15, 2026, the court found that it did not comply with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and granted leave to file a second amended complaint. Shampo filed the second amended complaint on February 2, 2026. The court allowed Eighth Amendment and state-law negligence claims to proceed against David Rosenfeldt and Christopher Melland, dismissed the claims against the remaining defendants, and ordered service and responsive pleadings.

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