

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Kendall v. Brazil

No. 2:24-cv-03801-DAD-CSK (PC) (E.D. Cal. June 18, 2025) · No. 2:24-cv-03801-DAD-CSK (PC) · Decided
June 20, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of California adopted the magistrate judge’s findings and recommendations and denied Adam Kendall’s motion for a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction. The court concluded that the requested relief concerning his custody level and transfer to particular prison facilities was not sought in the complaint and could not be ordered against facilities or officials not properly before the court.

OPINION

(PC) Kendall v. Brazil

PER CURIAM.

1 2 3 4 5 6

7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

8 FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

9

10 ADAM KENDALL, No. 2:24-cv-03801-DAD-CSK (PC)

11 Plaintiff, ORDER ADOPTING FINDINGS AND

RECOMMENDATIONS AND DENYING

12 v. MOTION FOR A TEMPORARY

RESTRAINING ORDER AND

13 BRAZIL, et al., PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

14 Defendants. (Doc. Nos. 2, 15) 15 16 17 Plaintiff Adam Kendall is a state prisoner proceeding
pro se in this civil rights action 18 brought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. This matter was referred

to a United States Magistrate 19 Judge pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636 (b)(1)(B) and Local Rule 302.

20 On December 30, 2024, plaintiff filed the complaint initiating this action along with a 21
motion for a temporary restraining order and a preliminary injunction. (Doc. Nos. 1, 2.) On

22 January 24, 2025, the assigned magistrate judge requested that the California Department of

23 Justice submit a response to the pending motion. (Doc. No. 7.) On February 4, 2025, 24

Supervising Deputy Attorney General Jon Allin filed an opposition by special appearance. (Doc.

25 No. 11.) On February 25, 2025, plaintiff filed a reply. (Doc. No. 14.)

26 On February 28, 2025, the assigned magistrate judge issued findings and 27 recommendations

recommending that plaintiff's motion for a preliminary injunction and 28 temporary restraining order be denied. (Doc. No. 15.) Specifically, the magistrate judge 1 observed that plaintiff's motion seeks injunctive relief, such as relief restoring plaintiff's "level 3 2 override," prohibiting his return to the Mule Creek State Prison ("MCSP"), and requiring that he 3 be placed at either the California Medical Facility ("CMF") or the California Men's Colony 4 ("CMC"). (Id. at 4.) The magistrate judge noted that plaintiff "did not seek this relief in his 5 complaint" and for good reason—inmates do not have a right to a particular custody level or to be 6 housed in a particular prison. (Id. at 3–6) (citing *Pac. Radiation Oncology, LLC v. Queen's Med. 7 Ctr.*, 810 F.3d 631, 636 (9th Cir. 2015) ("We hold that there must be a relationship between the 8 injury claimed in the motion for injunctive relief and the conduct asserted in the underlying 9 complaint.")). The pending findings and recommendations were served on plaintiff and 10 contained notice that any objections thereto were to be filed within fourteen (14) days from the 11 date of service. (Id. at 7.) On March 18, 2025, plaintiff filed objections to the pending findings 12 and recommendations. (Doc. No. 18.) On April 14, 2025, plaintiff filed an additional notice 13 stating that he was transferred to the California Substance Abuse Treatment Facility and State 14 Prison and arguing that this transfer does not render moot his pending motion. (Doc. No. 19.) 15 In plaintiff's objections, plaintiff argues that he "is not seeking an injunction based on new 16 claims not within his complaint" and that accepting the magistrate judge's findings and 17 recommendations "will amount to an abandonment of the courts [sic] duty to construe pro se 18 pleadings liberally." (Doc. No. 18 at 9.) The court has reviewed plaintiff's complaint and finds 19 that it seeks injunctive relief ordering the warden to require every prison guard to wear a body 20 camera, provide the option to have all disciplinary hearings recorded, immediately address 21 alleged systemic retaliation and other misconduct at MCSP, and halt any training of new guards 22 "until the systemic retaliation is rooted out and the toxic unsafe culture of MCSP changed." 23 (Doc. No. 1 at 106.) In his complaint filed in this action, however, plaintiff does not seek 24 injunctive relief regarding restoring his level-3 status and effectuating his transfer to CMF or 25 CMC, although his 108-page complaint does include allegations regarding a purported physical 26 altercation between himself and prison guards at MCSP and the withdrawal of his "level-3 27 override." (Id. at 77, 86–87.) However, the court observes that even if plaintiff were to succeed 28 on the merits of his claims as asserted in his complaint, he has no legal right to be transferred to 1 | CMF, CMC, or any other prison facility. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(d)(2) (providing that an 2 | injunction binds only the parties, their officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and 3 | other persons actively in concert or participation with them); see also *Zepeda v. United States 4 | Immigration & Naturalization Serv.*, 753 F.2d 719, 727 (9th Cir. 1985) (*A federal court may 5 | issue an injunction if it has personal jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter jurisdiction 6 | over the claim; it may not attempt to determine the rights of persons not before the court."); 7 | *Thompson v. Mike*, No. 17-cv-00319-DKW-RLP, 2018 WL 2144145, at *2 (D. Haw. May 9, 8 | 2018) ("Because neither the FDC (a federal facility) nor its administrators are parties to this 9 |

action, the Court is without authority to issue an injunction that would compel the FDC to accept
10 | [the plaintiff].”). Accordingly, the court concludes that plaintiff’s objections provide no basis
11 | upon which to reject the pending findings and recommendations recommending that his
12 | motion for atemporary restraining order and preliminary injunctive relief be denied. 13 In
accordance with the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C), this court has conducted a 14 | de
novo review of the case. Having carefully reviewed the entire file, the court finds the findings 15 |
and recommendations to be supported by the record and by proper analysis. 16 Accordingly, 17 1.
The findings and recommendations issued on February 28, 2025 (Doc. No. 15) are 18 hereby
ADOPTED; 19 2. Plaintiff’s motion for a preliminary injunction and temporary restraining order
20 (Doc. No. 2) is DENIED; and 21 3. This matter is referred back to the assigned magistrate
judge for further 22 proceedings. 23 IT IS SO ORDERED. *” | Dated: _ June 18, 2025 Dab A. 2,
axel

25 DALE A. DROZD

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

27 28