

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF
INDIANA, SOUTH BEND DIVISION

Ronnie Bee Cislo v. McKayla and LaPorte County Sheriff

Cislo · No. 3:25-CV-679-HAB-ALT · Decided March 9, 2026

SUMMARY

The court grants the LaPorte County Sheriff’s Rule 12(b)(1) motion to dismiss the official-capacity claim seeking injunctive relief for opioid-withdrawal treatment. Because the plaintiff was transferred from the LaPorte County Jail and showed no likelihood of retransfer, the court concludes that the injunctive-relief claim is moot and dismisses the Sheriff. The case proceeds solely on the individual-capacity claim against Nurse McKayla.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana, South Bend Division
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Holly A. Brady
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana, South Bend Division
DECIDED	March 9, 2026
DOCKET	3:25-CV-679-HAB-ALT
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The LaPorte County Sheriff moved under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(1) to dismiss the official-capacity claim for lack of subject matter jurisdiction on mootness grounds.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	On a Rule 12(b)(1) motion, the court accepts well-pleaded factual allegations as true and draws reasonable inferences in the plaintiff's favor, but may look beyond the jurisdictional allegations and consider submitted evidence to determine whether subject matter jurisdiction exists.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unknown
PARTIES	Ronnie Bee Cislo v. McKayla, LaPorte County Sheriff

TOPICS

subject matter jurisdiction

injunctions

prisoners rights

civil rights

civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

civil procedure

prisoner civil rights

constitutional law

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Cislo's request for permanent injunctive relief against the LaPorte County Sheriff became moot after Cislo was transferred from the LaPorte County Jail to another correctional facility.
2. Whether the court therefore lacked subject matter jurisdiction over the official-capacity claim against the Sheriff.

HOLDINGS

1. A prisoner's request for injunctive relief against officials of a former prison is moot after the prisoner is transferred to another prison unless he demonstrates that he is likely to be transferred back.
2. The court lacked subject matter jurisdiction over Cislo's official-capacity claim against the LaPorte County Sheriff because the claim was moot.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The injunctive relief claim against the Sheriff in his official capacity is moot and this court lacks subject matter jurisdiction over that claim.”

“If a prisoner is transferred to another prison, his request for injunctive relief against officials of the first prison is moot unless he can demonstrate that he is likely to be retransferred.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Cislo filed suit while detained at the LaPorte County Jail, seeking medical treatment for opioid withdrawal. He was subsequently moved to the Westville Correctional Facility, and the record contained no indication that he was likely to return to the LaPorte County Jail.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Cislo, a prisoner proceeding without a lawyer, brought claims against Nurse McKayla in her individual capacity and the LaPorte County Sheriff in his official capacity. After Cislo was transferred from the LaPorte County Jail to the Westville Correctional Facility, the Sheriff moved to dismiss the request for injunctive relief. Cislo did not respond, and the court granted the motion, dismissing the Sheriff and leaving only the claim against Nurse McKayla pending.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- St. John’s United Church of Christ v. City of Chicago, 502 F.3d 616, 625 (7th Cir. 2007)
- Pakovich v. Verizon LTD Plan, 653 F.3d 488, 492 (7th Cir. 2011)
- Higgason v. Farley, 83 F.3d 807, 811 (7th Cir. 1996)
- Maddox v. Love, 655 F.3d 709, 716 (7th Cir. 2011)

OPINION

Cislo

PER CURIAM.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

SOUTH BEND DIVISION

RONNIE BEE CISLO,

Plaintiff,

v. CAUSE NO. 3:25-CV-679-HAB-ALT

MCKAYLA AND LAPORTE COUNTY

SHERIFF,

Defendants.

OPINION AND ORDER

Ronnie Bee Cislo, a prisoner without a lawyer, is proceeding in this case on two claims: “against Nurse McKayla in her individual capacity for denying him medical treatment for opioid withdrawal as required by the Fourteenth Amendment [and] against the LaPorte County Sheriff in an official capacity to obtain permanent injunctive relief to obtain medical treatment for opioid withdrawal as required by the Fourteenth Amendment[.]” ECF 5 at 5. The Sheriff filed a motion to dismiss under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(1). ECF 20. Cislo did not respond and the deadline to do so has passed. See N.D. Ind. L.R. 7-1(d)(2). The Sheriff argues this court lacks subject matter jurisdiction because Mahon is no longer at the LaPorte County Jail. In considering a Rule 12(b)(1) motion, the Court must “accept as true all well-pleaded factual allegations and draw all reasonable inferences in favor of the plaintiff,” yet may also “look beyond the jurisdictional allegations of the complaint and view whatever evidence has been submitted on the issue to determine whether in fact subject matter jurisdiction exists.” *St. John’s United Church of Christ v. City of Chicago*, 502 F.3d 616, 625 (7th Cir. 2007) (citation omitted). “Federal courts lack subject matter jurisdiction when a case becomes moot.” *Pakovich v. Verizon LTD Plan*, 653 F.3d 488, 492 (7th Cir. 2011). “If a prisoner is transferred to another prison, his request for injunctive relief against officials of the first prison is moot unless he can demonstrate that he is likely to be retransferred.” *Higgason v. Farley*, 83 F.3d 807, 811 (7th Cir. 1996) (internal quotation marks and citation omitted); see also *Maddox v. Love*, 655 F.3d 709, 716 (7th Cir. 2011). “Allegations of a likely retransfer may not be based on mere speculation.” *Higgason*, 83 F.3d at 811. When Cislo

filed this case, he was at the LaPorte County Jail. ECF 1. He has since been moved to the Westville Correctional Facility. ECF 19. There is no indication he will be transferred back to the LaPorte County Jail. The injunctive relief claim against the Sheriff in his official capacity is moot and this court lacks subject matter jurisdiction over that claim. For these reasons, the motion to dismiss (ECF 20) is GRANTED. The LaPorte County Sheriff is DISMISSED. The parties are reminded this case is now proceeding solely on the claim against Nurse McKayla. SO ORDERED on March 9, 2026. s/ Holly A. Brady

CHIEF JUDGE HOLLY A. BRADY
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT