

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF  
ILLINOIS

**Janiah Monroe, Marilyn Melendez, Lydia Heléna Vision, Sora  
Kuykendall, and Sasha Reed v. Lamenta Conway, Melvin Hinton,  
and Latoya Hughes**

Monroe · No. 3:18-CV-00156-NJR · Decided December 11, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois issued a preliminary injunction concerning the transfer and placement of incarcerated class members diagnosed with gender dysphoria. The order directs Defendants to transfer qualifying individuals from Menard Correctional Center, consider specified medical, safety, security, and gender-identity factors, provide advance written notice, and submit monthly reports and records to the Court and Plaintiffs’ counsel.

CASE DETAILS

|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COURT                 | United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois                                                                                                                                   |
| WRITING FOR THE COURT | Nancy J. Rosenstengel                                                                                                                                                                                |
| JURISDICTION          | United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois                                                                                                                                   |
| DECIDED               | December 11, 2025                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| DOCKET                | 3:18-CV-00156-NJR                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| DISPOSITION           | other                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| PROCEDURAL POSTURE    | The court issued a preliminary injunction in a putative or certified class civil-rights action concerning the housing, evaluation, and transfer of incarcerated class members with gender dysphoria. |
| PRECEDENTIAL VALUE    | unknown                                                                                                                                                                                              |

TOPICS

- injunctions
- class actions
- prisoners rights
- civil rights
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil rights
- prisoners rights
- class actions
- injunctions
- civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. What preliminary injunctive requirements should govern the transfer, evaluation, placement, notice, and monitoring of class members housed at or entering Menard Correctional Center?
2. What specificity is required under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(1)(C) for the injunctive relief entered against the defendants?

## **HOLDINGS**

1. The court ordered defendants to transfer class members housed at Menard to other facilities, consider specified medical, mental-health, gender-identity, safety, security, and placement criteria, provide advance written notice and reasons for transfer decisions, and allow certain transfer requests to facilities matching a class member's gender identity.
2. Defendants may not assign a person recognized as a class member to Menard as a permanent institution; when an individual housed at Menard requests a gender-dysphoria evaluation, IDOC must conduct the evaluation within seven working days, confirm the diagnosis within fourteen days in its discretion, and transfer a person confirmed with gender dysphoria within twenty-one days.
3. Defendants must provide monthly status reports to the court and plaintiffs' counsel and must produce monthly documentation concerning Menard class members, including transfer materials, grievances, PREA complaints and investigations, treatment notes, and medical and mental-health records identified in the order.

## **KEY QUOTATIONS**

*“Pursuant to Rule 65(d)(1)(C) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and MillerCoors LLC v. Anheuser-Busch Companies, LLC, 940 F.3d 922 (7th Cir. 2019), the Court issues the following preliminary injunctive relief.” (at 1)*

*“Defendants shall provide to the Court and to Plaintiffs’ counsel a monthly report, by the last day of each month, of the status of any known class member currently housed at Menard, including the timing and result of any pending, upcoming, or concluded transfer decisions.” (at 3)*

## **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

The plaintiff class includes incarcerated individuals with gender dysphoria or related gender-identity and safety concerns. Some class members were housed at Menard Correctional Center, and the court had previously ordered transfers from Pinckneyville Correctional Center because of issues identified there. The order addresses transfer destinations, evaluation deadlines, notice, reporting, and production of records concerning class members housed at Menard.

## **PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

The order modifies and carries forward provisions of an earlier preliminary injunction dated September 12, 2025, and references prior orders concerning the transfer of class members from Menard and Pinckneyville Correctional Centers. The court entered mandatory injunctive directives under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(d)(1)(C).

## DISPOSITION

other

## CASES CITED

- MillerCoors LLC v. Anheuser-Busch Companies, LLC, 940 F.3d 922 (7th Cir. 2019)

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