

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
WISCONSIN

Jasmine M. Linton v. Kerry L. Kuffenkam et al.

Linton · No. 25-C-361 · Decided December 1, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin granted defendants’ motion for partial summary judgment in a prisoner’s 42 U.S.C. § 1983 action. The court held that the plaintiff failed to exhaust administrative remedies for his deliberate-indifference claim against Dr. Justin Ribault because his inmate complaint did not mention Ribault or his treatment decisions, and dismissed that claim without prejudice.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin
WRITING FOR THE COURT	William C. Griesbach
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin
DECIDED	December 1, 2025
DOCKET	25-C-361
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Defendants moved for partial summary judgment under the Prison Litigation Reform Act on the ground that Linton failed to exhaust administrative remedies for his claim against Dr. Justin Ribault. The court granted the motion and dismissed that claim without prejudice.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Summary judgment is appropriate when there is no genuine dispute as to any material fact and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. The court construes reasonable inferences in favor of the nonmoving party, but the opposing party must submit evidentiary materials showing specific facts establishing a genuine issue for trial.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished
PARTIES	Jasmine M. Linton v. Kerry L. Kuffenkam, Justin Ribault, et al.

TOPICS

- summary judgment
- affirmative defenses
- prisoners rights
- section 1983
- civil rights

PRACTICE AREAS

civil procedure

prisoner civil rights

constitutional law

summary judgment

administrative exhaustion

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether defendants were entitled to partial summary judgment because Linton failed to exhaust available administrative remedies for his deliberate-indifference claim against Dr. Ribault.
2. Whether Linton's unsworn declaration and failure to respond to defendants' proposed statements of fact required the court to accept those facts as undisputed.

HOLDINGS

1. Because Linton's purported declaration did not comply with 28 U.S.C. § 1746 and he did not respond to defendants' proposed statements of fact as required by the local summary-judgment rule, the court accepted defendants' proposed facts as true.
2. Linton failed to exhaust available administrative remedies for his claim against Dr. Ribault because his inmate complaint did not identify Ribault or provide notice of the treatment decisions underlying the claim.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The inmate complaint must “provide notice to the prison of the nature of the wrong for which redress is sought.”” (Analysis)

“For these reasons, Defendants’ motion for partial summary judgment on exhaustion grounds (Dkt. No. 25) is GRANTED and Linton’s claim against Dr. Ribault is DISMISSED without prejudice.” (Conclusion)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Linton, an inmate at Racine Correctional Institution, alleged that Dr. Kuffenkam was deliberately indifferent to his prediabetes and that Dr. Ribault was deliberately indifferent when he cancelled Linton's prescriptions, allegedly worsening his health. Linton filed one relevant inmate complaint on November 12, 2024, before Ribault became his primary provider. That complaint concerned Kuffenkam and other personnel at Dodge Correctional Institution and did not mention Ribault or any of Ribault's treatment decisions.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Linton filed a 42 U.S.C. § 1983 action asserting Eighth Amendment deliberate-indifference claims against Dr. Kerry Kuffenkam and Dr. Justin Ribault. Defendants moved for partial summary judgment concerning exhaustion of the claim against Ribault. After Linton failed to properly respond to the defendants' proposed facts and submitted an unsworn statement lacking the required certification, the court accepted the proposed facts as true and granted partial summary judgment.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- Zavala-Alvarez v. Darbar Management, Inc., 617 F. Supp. 3d 870, 886 (N.D. Ill. 2022)
- Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc., 477 U.S. 242, 248 (1986)
- Foley v. City of Lafayette, 359 F.3d 925, 928 (7th Cir. 2004)
- Siegel v. Shell Oil Co., 612 F.3d 932, 937 (7th Cir. 2010)
- Parent v. Home Depot U.S.A., Inc., 694 F.3d 919, 922 (7th Cir. 2012)
- Dole v. Chandler, 438 F.3d 804, 809 (7th Cir. 2006)
- Schillinger v. Kiley, 954 F.3d 990, 995 (7th Cir. 2020)

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