

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
MISSOURI

Joseph Michael Devon Engel v. Corizon, et al.

Engel · No. 4:21-cv-00717-PLC · Decided January 27, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri denied Joseph Michael Devon Engel’s post-judgment and post-appeal motion for reconsideration. The court found the motion frivolous and consistent with his prior pattern of abusive litigation, and directed the Clerk to return any future submissions in the closed matter unfiled.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Henry Edward Autrey
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri
DECIDED	January 27, 2026
DOCKET	4:21-cv-00717-PLC
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff sought reconsideration after judgment and appeal in a closed prisoner civil-rights matter, reasserting claims concerning a hernia and adding allegations against a previously unnamed defendant.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court reviewed the post-judgment and post-appeal motion for reconsideration for frivolousness and abuse of the judicial process.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished district court opinion
PARTIES	Joseph Michael Devon Engel v. Corizon, et al.

TOPICS

- motion for reconsideration
- prisoners rights
- civil rights
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil rights
- prisoner litigation
- civil procedure
- post-judgment motions

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Plaintiff's post-judgment and post-appeal motion for reconsideration should be granted despite its renewed and expanded allegations.
2. Whether the court should direct the Clerk to return future documents in the closed matter unfiled because of Plaintiff's frivolous and abusive litigation practices.

HOLDINGS

1. The court denied Plaintiff's post-judgment and post-appeal motion for reconsideration because it was frivolous and consistent with his prior pattern of abusive litigation.
2. The Clerk was directed to return any additional documents Plaintiff submitted in the closed matter unfiled.

KEY QUOTATIONS

"Plaintiff's motion is frivolous, and it is consistent with his prior pattern of abusive litigation before this Court." (at 2)

"The Court will therefore deny the motion, and direct the Clerk to return any future documents to Plaintiff unfiled." (at 2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiff, a prisoner subject to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g), alleged that he suffered a hernia in 2021 and sought \$2.5 million in damages. In his motion, he realleged those claims and added allegations against Dr. John Williams, who was not named in the original complaint. The court noted Plaintiff's prior finding that he had engaged in abusive litigation practices.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The matter came before the Eastern District of Missouri on Plaintiff's post-judgment and post-appeal motion for reconsideration. The court found the motion frivolous and consistent with Plaintiff's prior abusive litigation practices, denied the motion, and directed the Clerk to return any future documents submitted in the closed matter unfiled.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Engel v. Jefferson Cnty. Sheriff Dep't, No. 4:21-cv-00896-SEP, 2021 WL 4133791, at *3 (E.D. Mo. Sept. 10, 2021)