

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
ARKANSAS, NORTHERN DIVISION

Charles Pruitt, Jr. v. Sandra Lake, et al.

Pruitt · No. 3:24-cv-186-DPM-ERE · Decided February 17, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas directs pro se plaintiff Charles Pruitt to respond to defendants' motion for summary judgment and file a separate statement of disputed facts. The order explains the evidentiary and formatting requirements for opposing summary judgment and warns that failure to comply may result in deemed admissions and possible dismissal without prejudice.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas, Northern Division
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas, Northern Division
DECIDED	February 17, 2026
DOCKET	3:24-cv-186-DPM-ERE
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Defendants moved for summary judgment and submitted a supporting brief and statement of undisputed facts. The court ordered the pro se plaintiff to respond and file a separate statement of disputed facts by March 6, 2026.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	At the summary-judgment stage, the nonmoving party may not rely on mere allegations and must produce admissible evidence showing a genuine issue of material fact.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished district-court order; limited precedential value

TOPICS

[summary judgment](#) [civil procedure](#) [prisoners rights](#) [section 1983](#)

PRACTICE AREAS

[civil procedure](#) [prisoner civil rights](#)

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. What materials and procedural filings must a pro se plaintiff submit in response to a motion for summary judgment?
2. What consequences may follow if plaintiff fails to timely and properly respond or controvert defendants' statement of undisputed facts?

HOLDINGS

1. A nonmoving plaintiff opposing summary judgment may not rely on mere allegations; the plaintiff must support the response with legal arguments and admissible evidence, such as properly executed affidavits, jail records, or other evidence, demonstrating a genuine issue of material fact.
2. Plaintiff must separately file a short and concise statement of material facts, identify whether he agrees or disagrees with each numbered paragraph of defendants' statement, explain any disagreement, and cite the evidence supporting the disputed fact.
3. Failure to timely and properly file a response and statement of disputed facts may result in defendants' factual assertions being deemed admitted and may result in dismissal without prejudice.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“At the summary judgment stage, a plaintiff cannot rest upon mere allegations and, instead, must meet proof with proof.” (at 1)

“The Court will not sift through the file to find support for Mr. Pruitt’s factual contentions.” (at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The action is brought by pro se prisoner Charles Pruitt against Sandra Lake and other defendants. Defendants moved for summary judgment and filed a statement of undisputed facts. The order concerns the materials and procedural requirements plaintiff must satisfy in responding to that motion, not the merits of the underlying claims.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Defendants filed a motion for summary judgment in this prisoner civil-rights action. Before ruling on the motion, the court directed plaintiff Charles Pruitt to file a response and a separate statement of disputed facts complying with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 56 and the Eastern District of Arkansas Local Rules.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Crossley v. Georgia-Pacific Corp., 355 F.3d 1112, 1113-14 (8th Cir.)

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