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STATE OF ARKANSAS BUREAU OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH

Marty Garrity, Director

Kevin Anderson, Assistant Director for Fiscal Services

Matthew Miller, Assistant Director for Legal Services

Jessica Whittaker, Assistant Director for Research Services

Eric Sanders, Assistant Director for Information Technology Services

Claims Review/Litigation Reports Oversight Subcommittee of the Arkansas Legislative Council Claims Subcommittee of the Joint Budget Committee Statement of Redaction of Confidential Information

Style of Case: Michael Todd v. Arkansas Division of Correction

Docket Number: Claim No. 221393

Type of Matter (please circle one):

Claims Review

Litigation Reports Oversight

As indicated by my signature below:

- I acknowledge that documents submitted to the Subcommittee may be published or disseminated by the Subcommittee for purposes of its consideration and those documents that are published or disseminated by the Subcommittee will be considered subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, Arkansas Code § 25-19-101 et seq.
- I further acknowledge that it is my responsibility to review each document submitted to the Subcommittee and make any necessary redactions.
- I certify that I have reviewed each document submitted herein and have redacted all confidential information excluded from public access by Arkansas Supreme Court Administrative Order No. 19, § VII, and the Freedom of Information Act of 1967, Arkansas Code § 25-19-101 et seq., including without limitation an individual's home address, personal email address, personal phone number, date of birth, social security number, information identifying a minor child, medical records, and financial account numbers.
- If a redacted document has been submitted, I have also included a non-redacted copy of the same document that may be considered exempt from disclosure under Arkansas Code § 25-19-105.

Mika Tucker Name

Arkansas State Claims Comm	nission, Attorney Specialist
Title and Agency	

February 29, 2024 Date

One Capitol Mall, 5th Floor, Little Rock, AR 72201

Phone: (501) 682-1937

revised 08/23

Arkansas State Claims Commission

Please print in ink or type

BEFORE THE STATE CLAIMS CON Of the State of Arkansas	MMISSION RECEIVED
	Do Not Write in These Spaces
Todd (ADC , Claimant	Claim No Date Filed (Month) (Day) (Yea
ondent	Amount of Claim \$

MAY 2 0 2022

☑ Mr. □ Mrs.		Do Not Write in	These Spaces
□ Mrs. □ Ms.		Claim No.	
	C		
	, Claimant	Date Filed(Month) (1	Day) (Year)
VS.			(rear)
		Amount of Claim \$	
State of Arkansas, Respondent		Fund	
]
	COMPLAIN	ΝT	
Michael Todd (ADC	, the above named Claimant, of		
	1	(Street or R.F.D. & No.)	(City)
	County of Lee	epresented by	
(State) (Zip Code) (Daytime Pho	one No.)	(Legal Counsel, if any,	for Claim)
of			
(Street and No.)	(City) (State) (Zip Coo		(Fax No.)
State agency involved: Arkansa.5	> Vepartment of Correction	Amount sought: 50.00	00.00
Month, day, year and place of incident or ser	VICE: 3-2-22 9BKS EAST H		
Explanation Tulan AUA	AUAD THE HALL ALLER	acall 1	
(105 01 1NO) (INIONIA) (Day) (Year)	(Department)	6 1 8
	and that the following action was taken thereon:		• • •
nd that \$ was paid	d thereon: (2) Has any third person or corporation an inte	rest in this claim?	if so, state name and address
(Name)	(Street or R.F.D. & No.) (City) (State)	(Zip Code)
nd that the nature thereof is as follows:			(5.0 0000)
	: and was acquired on		, in the following manner
		i l	
THE UNDERSIGNED states on oath t	hat he or she is familiar with the matters and things	set forth in the above complaint, and the	hat he or she verily believe
hat they are true.		On ant	
Michael Todd	Muchae	Sector .	
(Print Claimant/Representativ	с маше)	(Signature of Claimant/Repr	esentative)
	SWORN TO and subscribed before me at	Bingkard	An
the second se	Stroker to and subscribed before me at	marys	MR
ALICIA WILLIAMS	1-10	(City)	(State)
SEAR No. 12705686	on this 15th day of	Man	2022
LEE COUNTY			
BLY Commission Expires 3-06-2028	(Date)	(Month)	(Year)
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		(Notary Publi	c)
SF1- R7/99	My Commission Expires:	3 04	7618
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My Commission Expires:

(Month)

(Day)

(Year)

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Durall -Admin Review 510/22 Name: Inmate Request Form Michael ADC # Date: Housing Assignment: MAY 8 2022 MAX 1-31 I have a request in the following area (Circle One): Job Assignment: Classification Parole Visitation Law Library Medical General Library Mental Health Property ommissary Hygiene Mail Job Assignment Other: 19 Durall Staff Staff directed to: DUVALL Office: Infirmary Detailed description of request: I WAS SENE to FORGEST CITY HOSPITAL I'm IN Need OF a Copy That Pleasegoo OF WR That Where From that WAS was STAbbed Incident cohile in Thank you Have you spoken with anyone about your request and if so, whom YES or NO Staff Contacted: NURSOS Date: 5-8-27 lichael 10 and 8 2027 Inmate Signature Responding Staff: Date Date: I have reviewed your request and here is my finding: Lamates can not have copies of their medical vicards mile Incarcerated transver you may renew your medical recards It you wish to vence quest medical hears pleas request I we use place you on the Ust - catatemethattsA 516000 I am referring this to: I consider this issue: Resolved

Attachment VI

IGTT430 3GD

INMATE NAME: Todd, Michael

GRIEVANCE#:EAM22-00494

CHIEF DEPUTY/DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S DECISION

On March 2, 2022, you stated the following complaint: "On or about 3-2-22 at or around 10:50pm I The Warden responded to your grievance on April 1, 2022, by stating the following: "According to Captain Harris staff is assigned according to staffing level present. An investigation was completed at the unit level, disciplinary action was taken for those involved in the incident. This should address your concerns." Your appeal was received on April 5, 2022. After review of your appeal and supporting

ADC #

documentation, I must concur with the Warden's decision. An Internal Affairs investigation was completed and the investigation has been turned over to the State Police. You will be notified once their investigation is completed. Your appeal is without merit.

Appeal denied.

Directo

Please be advised that if you appeal this decision to the U.S. District Court, a copy of this Chief Deputy/Deputy/Assistant Director's Decision must be attached to any petition or complaint or the Court may dismiss your case without notice. You may also be subject to paying filing fees pursuant to the Prison Litigation Act of 1995.

Attachment V

IGTT405 3GT

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GRIEVANCE APPEAL or REJECTION OF APPEAL

TO: Inmate <u>Todd, Michael</u> FROM: <u>Straughn, William F</u> RE: Receipt of Grievance <u>122-00494</u> ADC #: _____ TITLE: Deputy Director DATE: 04/05/2022

Please be advised, the appeal of your grievance dated 03/02/2022was received in my office on this date 04/05/2022

The Chief Deputy/Deputy/Assistant Director will answer this appeal by 05/17/2022 OR,

Your grievance appeal is being returned pursuant to the Administrative Directive on Inmate Grievances due to one of the following:

- The time allowed for appeal has expired
- The matter is non-grievable and does not involve retaliation:
 - (a) Parole and/or Release matter
 - (b) Transfer
 - (c) Job Assignment (Unrelated to Medical Restriction)
 - (d) Disciplinary matter
 - (e) Matter beyond the Division's control and/or matter of State/Federal law
 - (f) Involves an anticipated event
 - (g) Publication
- You did not send all the proper Attachments:
 - (a) Unit Level Grievance Form (Attachment 1)
 - (b) Warden's/Center Supervisor's Decision (Attachment III); or Health Services Response (Attachment IV for Health Issues Only)
 - (c) Acknowledgement and/or Rejection form (Attachment II)
 - (d) Step Two was appropriately rejected
 - (e) Did not give reason for disagreement in space provided for appeal
 - (f) Did not complete Attachment III or IV by signing your name, ADC#, and/or the date
 - (g) Unsanitary form(s) or documents received
- This Appeal was REJECTED because it was a duplicate of , or was frivolous or vexatious

Attachment III

IGTT410 3GS

INMATE NAME: Todd, Michael

ADC #:

GRIEVANCE #:

22-00494

WARDEN/CENTER SUPERVISOR'S DECISION

Inmate Todd, you stated in your grievance that, "On or about 3-2-22 at or around 10:50pm I was attacked

According to Captain Harris staff is assigned according to staffing level present. An investigation was completed at the unit level, disciplinary action was taken for those involved in the incident. This should address your concerns.

Signature of Warden/Supervisor or Designee

not had

INMATE'S APPEAL

If you are not satisfied with this response, you may appeal this decision within five working days by filling in the information requested below and mailing it to the appropriate Chief Deputy/Deputy/Assistant Director along with the Unit Level Grievance Form. Keep in mind that you are appealing the decision to the original grievance. Do not list additional issues, which are not part of your original grievance as they will not be addressed. Your appeal statement is limited to what you write in the space provided below.

Inmate Signature

INMATE GRIEVANCES SUPERVISOR ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

ADC#

1-2022

If appealing, please submit both the Unit Level Grievance Form (Attachment I) and the Warden's Decision (Attachment III)

IGTT400 3GR



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ACKNOWLEDGMENT OR REJECTION OF UNIT LEVEL GRIEVANCE

TO: Inmate <u>Todd, Michael</u> FROM: Long, Destiny A DATE: <u>03/11/2022</u> ADC #: TITLE: <u>Administrative Specialist II</u> GRIEVANCE #: <u>2-00494</u>

Please be advised, I have received your Grievance dated $\underline{03/02/2022}$ on $\underline{03/11/2022}$. You should receive communication regarding the Grievance by $\underline{04/08/2022}$

basis	D
Desting	Long
٥	0

Signature of Administrative Specialist II

CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING

- This Grievance will be addressed by the Warden/Center Supervisor or designee.
- This Grievance is of a medical nature and has been forwarded to the Health Services Administrator who will respond.
- C This Grievance involves a mental health issue and has been forwarded to the Mental Health Supervisor who will respond.
- This Grievance has been determined to be an emergency situation, as you so indicated.

This Grievance has been determined to not be an emergency situation because you would not be subject to a

- Substantial risk of personal injury or other serious irreparable harm. Your Grievance will be processed as a Non-Emergency.
- C This Grievance was REJECTED because it was either non-grievable (), untimely, was a duplicate of , or was frivolous or vexatious.

INMATE'S APPEAL

If you disagree with a rejection, you may appeal this decision within five working days by filling in the information requested below and mailing it to the appropriate Chief Deputy/Deputy/Assistant Director. If you do not receive communication regarding your grievance by the date listed above, you may move to the next level of the process. To do so, indicate in the Inmate's Appeal Section below that you did not receive a response and mail it to the appropriate Chief Deputy/Deputy/Assistant Director within five working days. Keep in mind that you are appealing the decision to reject the original complaint. Address only the rejection; do not list additional issues, which were not a part of your original grievance as they will not be addressed. Your appeal statement is limited to what you write in the space provided below.

				ADC#:			
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					Date	 •	
Inmate Signature	14	 (#)	् २२		t:	 जन्म स	1. mg

If appealing a rejection, please include both the Unit Level Grievance Form (Attachment I) and the Rejection (Attachment II)

	UNIT LEVEL GRIEVANCE FORM(Attachment I)	FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
	Unit/Center	GRV. 1 22-00494	
	Name Michael TODD	Date Received: MAR 1 1 2022	
	ADC#Brks # / 4 - 31 Job Assignment	GRV. Code #: 003	
3	-2-22 (Date) STEP ONE: Informal Resolution	310	
3.	- 9 - 22 (Date) STEP TWO: Formal Grievance (All complaints/concerns shoul	ld furst ha have 11 1 ' C 11)	
	If the issue was not resolved during Step One, state why: SQ 2-22	T King (informally.)	
	2-22 Never - Defused to g	et it Answa	a
	, (Date) EMERGENCY GRIEVANCE (An emergency situation is one in a substantial risk of physical harm: emergency grievances are not for ordinary pro	which you may be subject to	
	nature). If you marked yes, give this completed form to the designated problem-so	lying staff who will sign the	
	attach		
	Is this Grievance concerning Medical or Mental Health Services? If yes, ci	ircle one: medical or mental	
	BRIEFLY state your one complaint/concern and be specific as to the complaint, da	ate, place, name of personnel	
	involved and how you were affected. (Please Print):	1 ackor	
4			
			-
2			T.
· **-			
-			2
	Michael weld 3-4-	27	
ī	nmate Signature Date		
	f you are harmed, threatened because of your use of the grievance process, report it immed	liately to the Warden or designee	
	THIS SECTION TO BE FILLED OUT BY STAFF ON	NLY	
6	This form was received on <u>3</u> 7 2 (date), and determined to be Step One and (Yes or No). This form was forwarded to medical or mental health?	d/or an Emergency Grievance	
c	of the person in that department receiving this form:	(res of No). If yes, name Date	
-	San B King 11583 Sal B. King	3-7-22	
	RINT STAFF NAME (PROBLEM SOLVER) ID Number Staff Signature Describe action taken to resolve complaint, RECEIVED dates:	Date Received	
-	APR 0 5 2022		
-	SUPERVISOR A CHAR	food a non	
S	taff Signature & Date Returned INMATE GRIEVANCES SUPERVISOR)/ (////	e Received 310-22	
1	his form was received on <i>stord</i> (date), pursuant to Step Iwo . Is it an Emerger		
		Date:	
		her) Date: $3-10-22$ Date:	
de Ha			
L	DISTRIBUTION: YELLOW & PINK - Inmate Receipts; BLUE - Grievance Office	er; ORIGINAL - Given back	
u	o Inmate after Completion of Step One and Step Two.	O C	

X1/21	
UNIT LEVEL COLUMN SE FORM(Attachment I) Unit/Center GRV. # EAM22-	10011
Name Michael TODD Date Received: MAR	1 4 2022
ADC# Brks # <u>Ml-3</u> Job Assignment GRV. Code #: 803	
3-2-22 (Date) STEP ONE: Informal Resolution	
3-1-22 (Date) STEP TWO: Formal Grievance (All complaints/concerns should first be handled in If the issue was not resolved during/Step One, state why: 3/2 Juna 1/4 (David And 1/4) (David	subject to of serious
Is this Grievance concerning Medical or Menfal Health Services? If yes, circle one: medical	or mental
BRIEFLY state your one complaint/concern and be specific as to the complaint, date, place, name of	personnel
involved and how you were affected. (Please Print): ON ON COOL 3-2-	Ked
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michael Indel 3 11-22	
Michael weld 3-4-22	
Inmate Signature Date If you are harmed, threatened because of your use of the grievance process, report it immediately to the Warder	ı or designee
THIS SECTION TO BE FILLED OUT BY STAFF ONLY	
This form was received on $3 - 7 - 22$ (date), and determined to be Step One and/or an Emergency	Grievance
(Yes or No). This form was forwarded to medical or mental health? (Yes or No). If of the person in that department receiving this form: Date	yes, name
Sat-B-King Sat-B-King 2-7	Received
EOS MAR 1 5 2022 A REJECTION FOR THIS	
APPEAL AND MARKS THE END	1 K Jala
INMATE GRIEVANCES SUPERVISOR OF THE APPEAL PROCESS	heleau
Staff Signatumenter RantoR entronde Sept b King 3-11-22 Inmate Signature & Date Received 3	122
This form was received on 3-12-22 (date), pursuant to Step Two Is it an Emergency? (Ye	es or $\mathbb{N}\mathcal{O}$).
Staff Who Received Step Two Grievance: Date: 3-12-22 Action Taken:	
(1'0' walded to Offevance Officer/ walden/Other) Date:	
If forwarded, provide name of person receiving this form: Date:	

Attachment V

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GRIEVANCE APPEAL or REJECTION OF APPEAL A REJECTION FOR THIS

TO: Inmate <u>Todd, Michael</u> FROM: <u>Straughn, William F</u> RE: Receipt of Grievance ADC #: APPEAL AND MARKS THE END TITLE: Assistant Director (ADC) OF THE APPEAL PROCESS DATE: 03/15/2022

Please be advised, the appeal of your grievance dated 03/02/2022was received in my office on this date 03/15/2022

Your grievance appeal is being returned pursuant to the Administrative Directive on Inmate Grievances due to one of the following:

- The time allowed for appeal has expired
- The matter is non-grievable and does not involve retaliation:
 - (a) Parole and/or Release matter
 - (b) Transfer
 - (c) Job Assignment (Unrelated to Medical Restriction)
 - (d) Disciplinary matter
 - (e) Matter beyond the Division's control and/or matter of State/Federal law
 - (f) Involves an anticipated event
 - (g) Publication
- You did not send all the proper Attachments:
 - (a) Unit Level Grievance Form (Attachment 1)
 - (b) Warden's/Center Supervisor's Decision (Attachment III); or Health Services Response
 - (Attachment IV for Health Issues Only)
 - (c) Acknowledgement and/or Rejection form (Attachment II)
 - (d) Step Two was appropriately rejected
 - (e) Did not give reason for disagreement in space provided for appeal
 - (f) Did not complete Attachment III or IV by signing your name, ADC#, and/or the date
 - (g) Unsanitary form(s) or documents received
- This Appeal was REJECTED because it was a duplicate of

22-00494, or was frivolous or vexatious

Michael ADC liam F TITLE

ASST

IGTT400 3GR Attachment II

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OR REJECTION OF UNIT LEVEL GRIEVANCE

TO: Inmate <u>Todd, Michael</u> FROM: Long, Destiny A DATE: <u>03/14/2022</u> ADC #: ______ TITLE: <u>Administrative Specialist II</u> GRIEVANCE #: _____<u>22-00511</u>

Please be advised, I have received your Grievance dated <u>03/02/2022</u> on <u>03/14/2022</u>. All UKE 10 FOLLOW Your grievance was rejected as either non-grievable, untimely, **RECEIVED**, frivolous, or vexatious.

Signature of Administrative Specialist II

MAR 1 5 2022

AND MARKS THE END

INMATE GRIEVANCES SUPERVISOR

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING

- C This Grievance will be addressed by the Warden/Center Supervisor or designee.
- This Grievance is of a medical nature and has been forwarded to the Health Services Administrator who will respond.
- C This Grievance involves a mental health issue and has been forwarded to the Mental Health Supervisor who will respond.
- This Grievance has been determined to be an emergency situation, as you so indicated.

This Grievance has been determined to not be an emergency situation because you would not be subject to a

- Substantial risk of personal injury or other serious irreparable harm. Your Grievance will be processed as a Non-Emergency.
- This Grievance was REJECTED because it was either non-grievable (), untimely, was a duplicate of <u>100122-00494</u>, or was frivolous or vexatious.

INMATE'S APPEAL

If you disagree with a rejection, you may appeal this decision within five working days by filling in the information requested below and mailing it to the appropriate Chief Deputy/Deputy/Assistant Director. If you do not receive communication regarding your grievance by the date listed above, you may move to the next level of the process. To do so, indicate in the Inmate's Appeal Section below that you did not receive a response and mail it to the appropriate Chief Deputy/Deputy/Assistant Director within five working days. Keep in mind that you are appealing the decision to reject the original complaint. Address only the rejection; do not list additional issues, which were not a part of your original grievance as they will not be addressed. Your appeal statement is limited to what you

write in the space provided below. Intel This 12 Samo -King -Brough had Not Dil aner She 101 Rear as CNM Ø Ame 12101 ION Signature

If appealing a rejection, please include both the Unit Level Grievance Form (Attachment I) and the Rejection (Attachment II)

From:	ASCC New Claims
То:	Thomas Burns (DOC); Roni Gean (DOC)
Cc:	<u>Kathryn Irby</u>
Subject:	CLAIM: Michael Todd v. ADC, Claim No. 221393
Date:	Thursday, May 26, 2022 12:47:00 PM
Attachments:	<u>Michael Todd ADC agency ltr .pdf</u> <u>Michael Todd Claim.pdf</u>

Please see attached. Contact Kathryn Irby with any questions.

Thank you, Caitlin

Caitlin McDaniel

Administrative Specialist II Arkansas State Claims Commission 101 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 410 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 (501) 682-1619 Caitlin.McDaniel@arkansas.gov

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

(501)682-1619 FAX (501)682-2823



KATHRYN IRBY DIRECTOR

101 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE SUITE 410 LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201-3823

May 26, 2022

Mr. Thomas Burns Arkansas Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71602 (via email)

RE: *Michael Todd v. Arkansas Division of Correction* Claim No. 221393

Dear Mr. Burns,

Enclosed please find a copy of the above-styled claim filed against the Arkansas Division of Correction. Pursuant to the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure, as well as Claims Commission Rule 2.2, you have **thirty days from the date of service** in which to file a responsive pleading.

Your responsive pleading should include your agency number, fund code, appropriation code, and activity/section/unit/element that this claim should be charged against, if liability is admitted, or if the Claims Commission approves this claim for payment. This information is necessary even if your agency denies liability.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Irby

ES: cmcdaniel

cc: Michael Todd (ADC), *Claimant* (w/ encl.)

<u>Note to Claimant or Claimant's counsel</u>: The Claims Commission copied you on this correspondence to provide you with confirmation that your claim has been processed and served upon the respondent agency.

Mika Tucker

From:Roni Gean (DOC)Sent:Tuesday, May 31, 2022 3:56 PMTo:ASCC PleadingsCc:Thomas Burns (DOC)Subject:Michael Todd 093500 - Claim 221393 - Answer 05-31-22.pdfAttachments:Michael Todd 093500 - Claim 221393 - Answer 05-31-22.pdf

Good afternoon,

Please see attached our Answer in this matter. Thank you.

Roní Gean

Administrative Specialist III DOC Division of Correction Internal Affairs Division (870) 267-6218 Legal Division (870) 267-6844 6814 Princeton Pike, Pine Bluff, AR 71602 roni.gean@arkansas.gov

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BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD (ADC#

CLAIMANT

V.

NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS DIVISION OF CORRECTION

RESPONDENT

ANSWER TO COMPLAINT

COMES NOW the Respondent, Arkansas Department of Corrections, and for its Answer, states and alleges as follows:

- 1. Respondent denies liability in this claim and asserts it will hold the Claimant to strict proof on each allegation unless admitted by Respondent. Respondent reserves the right to plead further upon completion of the investigation by internal affairs and requests the matter be held in abeyance until the investigation is complete.
- 2. The applicable account information required by the Commission is:
 - a. Agency number: 0480
- b. Cost Center: HCA 0100
- c. Internal Order: 340301
- d. Fund Center: 509

WHEREFORE, for the reasons cited above, the Respondent prays that the claim be dismissed with prejudice and that Claimant take nothing or, in the alternative, that the matter be held in abeyance until completion of the investigation by Internal Affairs.

Respectfully submitted, Arkansas Department of Corrections Office of Chief Counsel

Thomas Burns (02006) ADC Legal Division 6814 Princeton Pike, Pine Bluff, AR 71602-9411 (870) 267-6845 Office/(870) 267-6373 Facsimile thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this pleading has been served this 31st day of May 2022 on the Claimant by placing a copy of the same in the U. S. Mail, regular postage, to:

Michael Todd (ADC# (

Thomas Burns General Counsel



June 21, 2022



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Mika Tucker

From:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Sent:	Monday, June 27, 2022 10:30 AM
То:	ASCC Pleadings
Cc:	Roni Gean (DOC); Leslie Browning (DOC)
Subject:	Michael Todd v ADC 221393
Attachments:	2885_001.pdf

Motion to Dismiss

Thomas Burns General Counsel Arkansas Department of Corrections Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff Arkansas 71602 Phone: (870) 267-6845 Fax: (870) 267-6373 Cell: (870) 515-0918 thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

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BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD (ADC

CLAIMANT

V

NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS DIVISION OF CORRECTION

RESPONDENT

RESPONDENT'S MOTION TO DISMISS

Comes Now the Respondent, Arkansas Department of Corrections (ADC), for its Motion to Dismiss, states:

1. The inmate's claim should be dismissed pursuant to the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure (ARCP) 12(b)(6) as it fails to state facts upon which relief can be granted.

2. On a motion to dismiss pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6) of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure the courts treat the facts alleged in complaints as true and view them in the light most favorable to the plaintiff. *Dockery v Morgan, 2011 Ark. 94.* "However, [Arkansas's] rules require fact pleading, and a complaint must state facts, not mere conclusions, in order to entitle the pleader to relief." *Id.* The Court should "treat only the facts alleged in the complaint as true but not the plaintiff's theories, speculation, or statutory interpretation." *Id.*

3. An "important mechanism for weeding out meritless claims [is a] motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim." *Fifth Third Bancorp v. Dudenhoeffer*, 573 U.S. 409, 425 (2014). Legal conclusions, unsupported conclusions, and unwarranted inferences must be ignored and fail to withstand a Rule 12(b)(6) motion. *See Farm Credit Svcs. v American State bank, 339 F.3d 764* (8th Cir. 2003). A pleading must contain a "short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief. *Ashcraft v Iqbal 556 U.S. 662 (2009)*. Although detailed factual allegations are not required, more that "unadorned, the-defendant-unlawfully-harmed-meaccusations" are required. *Id.* To survive a motion to dismiss, a complaint must contain sufficient factual matter that, when accepted as true, state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face. *Id.* A claim is facially plausible "when the plaintiff pleads factual content that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged." *Id.*

4. When a trial court is presented with extraneous materials outside of the pleadings and does not exclude those materials, a motion to dismiss for failure to state facts upon which relief can be granted shall be treated as one for summary judgment. *Norris v Davis, 2014 Ark. App. 632 (2014)*

5. The inmate seeks the sum of \$50000.00, for alleged inmate on inmate battery. Although inmate seeks an award of damages (\$50000.00), he fails to plead any basis for an award of damages, and he fails to give the Arkansas Claims Commission any rational basis beyond mere speculation of the damages. Damages are an essential element of a tort claim and there must an allegation of sufficient facts to satisfy the damages element or the case is subject to a motion to dismiss. *Wallis v. Ford Motor Company, 362 Ark. 317, 208 S.W. 3d 153 (2008)*. The inmate's claim, even if true, does not support a claim for monetary relief.

6. Even if the inmate were to plead with more specificity, he would still not be able to prevail. The party claiming damages has the burden of proving those damages beyond speculation. *Minerva Enterprises v. Howlett, 308 Ark. 291, 824 S.W. 2d 377 (1992).* Even taking the inmate's allegations true as pleading, and giving him the benefit of every possible inference, his mere inconvenience of alleged wrongdoing can never render a claim that is anything but speculation.

7. Pro Se parties are not given special treatment and are held to the same standard as a licensed attorney. *Pressler v. Ark. Publ. Serv. Comm'n, 2011 Ark. App. 512, at 9, 385 S.W.3d* 349, 355 (citing Elder v. Mark Ford & Assocs., 103 Ark. App. 302, 288 S.W.3d 702 (2008)). The

Claims Commission notes that under Arkansas law, a claimant choosing to represent himself is held to the same standard as an attorney. *Michael Pickens v ADC claim 190793 (ASCC 2019)*.

8. Whether a plaintiff is represented by counsel or is appearing pro <u>se</u>, his complaint must allege specific facts sufficient to state a claim. *See Martin v Sargent*, 780 F.2d 1334, 1337 (8th Cir. 1985).

9. A complaint must state facts, not mere conclusions, in order to satisfy the requirements of Rule 8 of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure. *Doe v Weiss, 2010 Ark. 150.*

In reviewing whether a complaint is subject to dismissal, the Court must accept as 10. true all factual allegations in the complaint, but is "not bound to accept as true a legal conclusion couched as a factual allegation." Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009) (quoting Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly, 550 U.S. 544, 555 (2007)). "Threadbare recitals of the elements of a cause of action, supported by mere conclusory statements, do not suffice." Id. "Nor does a complaint suffice if it "tenders 'naked assertion[s]' devoid of 'further factual enhancement."" Id. (quoting Twombly, 550 U.S. at 557). Rather, a complaint must plead "enough facts to state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face." Twombly, 550 U.S. at 570. "A claim has facial plausibility when the plaintiff pleads factual content that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged." Iqbal, 556 U.S. at 678. "The plausibility standard is not akin to a 'probability requirement,' but it asks for more than a sheer possibility that a defendant has acted unlawfully." Id. (quoting Twombly, 550 U.S. at 556). A well pleaded complaint may proceed even if it appears that actual proof of those facts is improbable and that recovery is very remote and unlikely. Twombly, 550 U.S. at 556. A complaint cannot, however, simply leave open the possibility that a plaintiff might later establish some set of undisclosed facts to support recovery. Id. at 561. Rather, the facts set forth in the complaint must be sufficient to nudge the claims across the line from conceivable to plausible.

Id. at 570. "[W]here the well-pleaded facts do not permit the court to infer more than the mere possibility of misconduct, the complaint has alleged –but it has not 'show[n]' – 'that the pleader is entitled to relief.'" *Iqbal, 556 U.S. at 679 (quoting Fed.R.Civ.P. 8(a)(2)).*

11. The Plausibility standard is not akin to a "probability requirement" but it asks for more than a sheer possibility that a defendant has acted unlawfully. Where a complaint pleads facts that are "merely consistent with" a defendant's liability, it" stops short of the line between possibility a plausibility of entitlement to relief" *Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly, 550 U.S. 544, 555 (2007)*

12. The inmate is currently housed at the **Second Second S**

13. This inmate states in his claim that another inmate stabbed him while asleep.

14. Law enforcement officials, including supervising probation officers and, consequently, state and local governments, generally may not be held liable for failure to protect individual citizens from harm caused by criminal conduct. *Bartunek v. State, 266 Neb. 454, 666 N.W.2d 435 (2003).* There are situations that provide exceptions to the no-duty rule: (1) where individuals who have aided law enforcement as informers or witnesses are to be protected or (2) where the police have expressly promised to protect specific individuals from precise harm. *Brandon v. County of Richardson, 252 Neb. 839, 566 N.W.2d 776 (1997).* There is no duty to control the conduct of a third person so as to prevent him from causing physical harm to another unless (1) a special relation exists between the actor and the third person which imposes a duty upon the actor to control the third person's conduct **625 or (2) a special relation exists between the actor and the other which gives to the other a right to protection. *Bartunek, supra_* One who takes charge of a third person whom he knows or should know to be likely to cause bodily harm

to others if not controlled is under a duty to *828 exercise reasonable care to control the third person to prevent him from doing such harm. <u>Id.</u> Wilken v. City of Lexington 16 Neb. App. 817, 754 N.W.2d 616 Neb. App., 2008.

15. The inmate did not have an enemy alert that would tell the ADC that the inmate needed protection for inmate Gould. An enemy alert was generated after the battery. *See attached Ex A*.

16. The inmate states that the ADC will not give him camera footage or pictures, its is not the function of the Claims Commission to issue injunctive relief.

17. The inmate grieved this matte and in his appeal states "I'm asking that full charges be filed on these inmates and a record of it"

18. The inmate actually does not know who assaulted him, in fact his statement begins with "for all I know" *See attached Ex B*.

19. Arkansas law defines battery as "a wrongful or offensive physical contact with another through the intentional conduct by the tortfeasor and without the consent of the victim." *Costner v. Adams, 121 S.W.3d 164, 170 (Ark.App.2003).* Plaintiff does *not* allege that *any* of the Defendants wrongfully or offensively touched him during his March 3, 2022, alleged altercation with Gould. Instead, he contends that Defendants failed to prevent the attack, which is a claim he can properly pursue under § 1983.

20. The inmate has filed a complaint that he knows is in bad faith and not supported by the facts. The Commission should award the ADC fees and costs for having to respond to this baseless complaint.

21. This same claim, if presented to a court of general jurisdiction would, as a matter of law, be dismissed.

22. "The commission shall make no award for any claim which, as a matter of law, should be dismissed from a court of law or equity for reasons other than sovereign immunity." Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-204(3)(A) (West Supp. 2015). "Specifically, if the facts of a given claim would cause the claim to be dismissed as a matter of law from a court of general jurisdiction, then the commission shall make no award on the claim." Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-204(3)(B) (West Supp. 2015). The claimant has not been damaged and only makes mere assertions that he has been damages. Without damages a Court would dismiss the claim in its entirety.

WHEREFORE, the Respondent prays that the motion be granted and the complaint dismissed; for their attorney's fees and costs; and all other just and proper relief to which they may be entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Burns (02006) Legal Department Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, AR 71602 (870) 267-6845 Office (870) 267-6373 Facsimile thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the above pleading has been served this 27th day of June 2022, on the below Claimant by placing a copy of the same in the U. S. Mail, regular postage to:



Thomas Burns

800-80-03-008 ADD TO Enemy Alert Notification I am recommending that Inmate <u>Told</u>, *M*, ADC# and the following inmate(s) be placed on each others enemy alert (attach additional names if necessary): Inmate Gould 5, ADC# Inmate _____, ADC# _____ Inmate _____, ADC# This action is a result of: Gould assaulted Todd The above listed inmates should not be housed, attend recreation functions, or work together without proper supervision. <u>3-3-22</u> Date Employee's Signature Approve _____ Disapprove _____ Action Recommended: Suttery 191 April 10 Reasons: 03/07/22my man-Chief of Security's Signature RECEIPED DENAMORIAN Date Concur ____ Date ____ Return for further consideration _____ Date ____ Comments: Warden/Center Supervisor Sign. Dat cc:Chief of Security Records Office ACI -- 0038

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
A STATEMENT OF WITNESS
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STATEMENT: JOR ALL & KIOW
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I make this statement freely, under no duress, and without undue coercion exerted against me by any correctional officer of Official of the Arkansas Department of Corrections.
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1-15-2022
Muchan Signature Date
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M. J.C.
Witness/Statement Taken By
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Witness/Statement Taken By

CS Form #67

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BEFORE THE ARKANSAS	STATE	CLAIMS	commission/
Alichael Todd			Arkansas State Glaims Commission
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TO THE ARK CHAIM Commission!

No Im Not A Iveense Attorney, I Dont Know All Those Francy Legal Terms / LASE'S to Cite, I Also Know its MR Berns Duty/Job to Defend the A,D,C... But what I do Know is That All of A sudden For some Reason, Now I Cant Get & Copy of Something out MY Medical Jacket ... In Not Allowed to Have the Report From Forrest City DR 3-3-22 CHMERA Footage OR Withness Statements From The witness's I Asked For on Claim. Which would Prove Damages ...

Haives VS. Keener 404 US 519,92 Sct 594,30 LEdzd 652 Prose Litigants Pleadings Are to be Construed liberally/ Held to A Less stringent standard than Pleadings DRAFTED by LAwyers.

Sealed Hantff VS. Sealed Defendants, 537 Fized 185 Courts should liberally construe prose complaints offering Wider latitude despite legal Deficiencies/errors W #7 of MR BURNS MOTION is Mislonstrued

SPEAKING OF Filining Motions IN BAD FAITH "# 20) of Respondents #22 Respondent's LIES MR BURN SAVE I WAS NOT Damaged THERE IS NO WAY HE CAN PROVE I WAS NOT Damaged. THERE IS, Documents Interess's A.D.C. Witness's Victures / TransFer Documentations - Forest City AR-Hospita Document's 3-3-22 That will Prove I was Damaged. A Hearing will Show / Prove That Respondent Lies. Respects Mirchael Jodd WHEREFORE, the Claimant Prais That the Notion To Dismiss Filed by Respondent Be Dismissed And Claimant be Granted A Adaring. And All Other Just / Proper Relief to Which He MAY be Entitled.

> Respectfully Submitted? # Michael Todd

CERTIFICATE OF Service

I Certify that A COPY of the Above pleading has been served this July 5. 2022 on the below Respondent by Placing a COPY of the same in The U.S. Mail Regular Postage to:

Thomas Burn (02006) 1 homas worn court, Legal Drussion Department 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, MR 71602

Gail Wolfenbarger CIRCUIT CLERK P.O. BOX 1420 HOPE, AR 71802-1420 HEMPSTEAD COUNTY PHONE: 870-777-2384 • FAX: 870-777-7827 9 May 20, 2019

Michael Todd, /

RE: LETTER FILED MAY 20, 2019

Dear Mr. Michael Todd:

Anthony Biddle was the attorney assigned to represent you when you requested representation by the Public Defender's office in 2013. Since then, you have not hired a private attorney and there is not an order allowing Anthony Biddle to withdraw as your attorney. Therefore, Mr. Anthony Biddle is still the attorney of record for your case, 29CR-13-78-2. Our office is separate from the Public Defender's office and we are not able to discuss any concerns you have with another office.

Your request for a copy of an arrest warrant in case number 29CR-13-78-2 cannot be completed because there is no arrest warrant in this case. Please refer to the copies of the docket sheet that were provided to you when requesting documents from your case.

Sincerely,

Hannah Kincheloe, Deputy Circuit Clerk



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Arkansas State Claims Commission

JUL 1 2 2022

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HEMPSTEAD COUNTY, ARKANSAS RECEIVED **8N DISTRICT**

STATE OF ARKANSAS

PLAINTIFF

V.

NO. CR 2013-78-2

MICHAEL TODD

DEFENDANT

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80.11



6-39-202 BREAKING OR ENTERING 5-37-201 FORGERY - 2" Degree THEFT OF PROPERTY <= \$1,000 5-36-103(b)(4)(A

Offense

Code #

 DOB RACE B SEX
 HEMPSTEAD CIRCUT CLEAD CURCUT CLEAD CONCUT CLEAD CLEAD CONCUT crime(s) of BREAKING OR ENTERING, FORGERY - 2" Degree and THEFT OF PROPERTY <= \$1,000

COUNT 1: BREAKING OR ENTERING ARK. CODE ANN. § 5-39-202. The said defendant in the 8N District of HEMPSTEAD COUNTY, did on or about February 19, 2013, unlawfully, feloniously and for the purpose of committing a theft or felony, enter or break into a vehicle belonging to Fallon Langston, in violation of A.C.A. §5-39-202 against the peace and dignity of the State of Arkansas.

PENALTY -- CLASS D FELONY (LARGE HABITUAL): Imprisonment in the Arkansas Department of Correction for a term not more than 15 years or a fine not exceeding \$10,000.00 or both such fine and imprisonment.

NOTE: The State contends that this Defendant should receive an extended term of imprisonment under the terms and provisions of A.C.A. §5-4-501 as he has four (4) or more felony convictions.

COUNT 2: FORGERY -2nd Degree ARK. CODE ANN, § 5-37-201. The said defendant in the 8N District of HEMPSTEAD COUNTY, did on or about February 19, 2013, unlawfully and feloniously with the purpose to defraud, make, complete, possess, alter or utter a written instrument, namely a check, or other written instrument, that purported to be or was calculated to become or represent if completed, the act of a person, Feroyri Sampson, who did not authorize that act in violation of A.C.A. §5-37-201 against the peace and dignity of the State of Arkansas.

PENALTY -- CLASS C FELONY (LARGE HABITUAL): Imprisonment in the Arkansas Department of Correction for a term not less than three (3) years nor more than thirty (30) years or a fine not exceeding \$10,000.00 or both such fine and imprisonment.

NOTE: The State contends that this Defendant should receive an extended term of imprisonment under the terms and provisions of A.C.A. §5-4-501 as he has four (4) or more felony convictions.

COUNT 3: THEFT OF PROPERTY <= \$1,000 ARK. CODE ANN. § 5-36-103(b)(4)(A). The said defendant in the 8N District of HEMPSTEAD COUNTY, did on or about February 19, 2013, unlawfully, and knowingly take or exercise unauthorized control over, or make an unauthorized transfer of an interest in, the property of another person, Feroyri Sampson, with the purpose of depriving the owner thereof, said property is valued at less than \$1,000.00 in violation of A.C.A. §5-36-103(b)(4)(A) against the peace and dignity of the State of Arkansas.

PENALTY -- CLASS A MISDEMEANOR: Imprisonment in the County Jail for a term not to exceed one (1) year or a fine not exceeding \$2,500.00 or both such fine and imprisonment.

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

EXHIBIT

Book-Pages CR2014

SENTENCING ORDE AMENDED

	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF	HEMPSTEAD		ARKANSAS,				DIVISION
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Defen	- 1 1 -	-	*	
Deten	gants	Full	Name:	

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Ŧ	2		(Def	endant's Full Name	, 📑 ¹d, Micha	el Alena	357		
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Sex Offenses			•				
		Defendant has been adjudicated guilty of an offense requiring sex offender registration and					Domestic Violence Offenses			
ĸ		must complete the Sex Offender Registration Form.				Defendant has been adjudicated guilty of a domestic-violence related offense.				
		Yes No					Yes No			
		Defendant has committed an aggravat	bed sex offense as de	fined in A	C.A. §12-12-903.	If no, was defendant originally charged with a				
ł	101	Defendant is alleged to be a sexually v	Pa	domestic-viole	nce related offense?	Yes No				
	dit	evaluation at a facility designated by	D.C. pursuant to A	C.A. §12-12	to undergo an 2-918.	It yes, state the	If yes, state the name of the offense:			
	Condit	Yes No					•			
	;1] (Defendant, who has been adjudicated	If yes to either question, identify the relationship of the victim to the defendant.							
	Special	adjudicated guilty of a prior sex offens If yes, list prior case numbers:								
	SD									
		DNA Sam								
		Defendant has been adjudicated guilty of a qualifying offense or repeat offense (as defined in A.C.A. §12-12-1103). Wes No					Drug Crime een convicted of a dr			
:		Defendant is ordered to have a DNA sa	mple drawn at 🗔 a	D.C.C. facili	ity The A.D.C. or	defined in §12-1	17-101.	ug ci inte, as		
		other already on file				Yes No				
		Court Costs	\$	Restituti	on \$			l		
		Fines	\$32,500.00**	Payable	to [If multiple benef	lciaries, give name	es and payment prior	itvl		
	-	Booking/Admin Fees (\$20)	\$			and government provide				
		Drug Crime Assessment Fee (\$125)	\$							
		DNA Sample Fee (\$250)	\$	Terms	Due Immediately		······································			
Ì		Mandatory Sex Offender Fee (\$250)	\$		Installments of:					
		Public Defender User Fee	\$		Payments must be n	nade within TBD	days of release	from A.D.C.		
į		Public Defender Attorney Fee	\$		Upon release from confinement, Defendant must return to court to					
	establish payment of re-						nd several with co-defendant(s) who was found			
1) 🖬	(explain)								
			<u>l</u>	. <u> </u>	· · ·	•				
	A	Act 531, §§16-93-1201 et seq.: Defend	ant was convicted o	fataroeto	ffence(c) and is control					
		while continuantly Parastiment Act. [_] Y	CSEE NO				Jurisdicti	l juvenile		
	Т Р	the Court hereby orders a judicial transf	er to the Departmen	nt of Comm	unity Correction. 🔲 Y	es 🖬 No				
	V	ursuant to the Community Punishment	OTAL TIME TO BE	SERVED E	pible to have his/her re		No			
1	h		months: 900		LWOP	Death Penalty	If Yes, State Execu	tion Date:		
	D	EFENDANT IS ASSIGNED TO:			TTY JAIL D PROBA		SPECIAL CONDI	TTONE		
	C	onditions of disposition or probation ar	e attached. 🔄 Yes	No						
		copy of the pre-sentence investigation			tached Yes No	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Defendant has n	fendant has previously		
	A	copy of the Prosecutor's Short Report is	attached 🚺 Yes	No		i	failed a drug court p			
	13	EFENDANT WAS INFORMED OF APPE	LLATE RIGHTS	Yes No	Appeal Bond \$					
The County Sheriff is hereby ordered to: Utransport the defendant to county jail Itake custody for referral to CCC atransport to ADC Defendant shall report to DCC probation officer for report date to CCC Yes No								x		
Prosecuting Attorney Deputy Signature: Date: 3/5/1/ Print Name: Phillip Harris Date: 7-5-14 Signature: Date: 7-5-14 Print Name: Date: 7-5-14 Print Name: Date: 7-5-14										
1	itio	nal Info:	0000	/				·		
in indicat into: (inse # 1, 2 & 3 are consecutive to each other & this case is consecutive to case nos. CR-09-33, CR-09-34, CR-09-35, CR-09-36, CR-09-37 & CR-09-38.										
use #4 is concurrent with Offense # 1, 2 & 3. **Offense #1 ordered \$10,000 fine; Offense #2 ordered \$10,000 fine; Offense #3 ordered \$10,000 fine										
ffense #4 ordered \$2,500 fine making the total fine in this case to be \$32,500. The jury determined the time & fine and the judge ordered time to be										
3	ecuti	ive. See the additional information page	e attached hereto, in	corporated	l berein and made a par	thereof. ALL P	NDED to CO	rrect		
M		na. AF ANN' T.A.		ſ	1 11 A AAA	-, /\w.L	'36	• •		
	•									
Mika Tucker

From:	Misty Scott on behalf of ASCC Pleadings
Sent:	Monday, August 29, 2022 3:14 PM
То:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Cc:	Leslie Browning (DOC); ASCC Pleadings; Mika Tucker
Subject:	ORDER: Michael Todd v. ADC, Claim No. 221393
Attachments:	Michael Todd v. ADC-MT.pdf; Michael Todd-order.pdf

Thomas:

Please see attached. Contact Mika Tucker with any questions.

Thank you,

Místy

Misty Scott Arkansas State Claims Commission

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

(501) 682-1619 FAX (501) 682-2823



KATHRYN IRBY DIRECTOR

101 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE SUITE 410 LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-3823

August 29, 2022

Mr. Michael Todd (ADC

Mr. Thomas Burns Arkansas Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71602-9411 (via email)

Re: *Michael Todd v. Arkansas Division of Correction* Claim Nos. 221393

Dear Mr. Todd and Mr. Burns:

Enclosed please find an Order entered today by the Arkansas State Claims Commission. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Mika Tucker

ES: msscott

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD (ADC)

CLAIMANT

V.

CLAIM NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DIVISION OF CORRECTION

RESPONDENT

<u>ORDER</u>

Now before the Arkansas State Claims Commission (the "Claims Commission") is a motion filed by the Arkansas Division of Correction (the "Respondent") to dismiss the claim of Michael Todd (the "Claimant"). Based upon a review of the motion, the arguments made therein, and the law of Arkansas, the Claims Commission hereby finds as follows:

1. Claimant filed his claim on May 20, 2022, seeking \$50,000.00 in damages. Claimant alleges he was stabbed in his face, arms, stomach and head when Respondent breached security.

2. Respondent filed a motion to dismiss pursuant to Ark. R. Civ. Proc. 12(b)(6), arguing, *inter alia*, that Claimant has not been damaged.

3. Claimant did not respond to the motion to dismiss.

4. In reviewing Respondent's motion to dismiss, the Claims Commission must treat the facts alleged in the complaint as true and view them in a light most favorable to the Claimant. *See Hodges v. Lamora*, 337 Ark. 470, 989 S.W.2d 530 (1999). All reasonable inferences must be resolved in favor of the Claimant, and the complaint must be liberally construed. *See id*. However, the Claimant must allege facts, not mere conclusions. *Dockery v. Morgan*, 2011 Ark. 94 at *6, 380 S.W.3d 377, 382 (2011). The facts alleged in the complaint will be treated as true, but not "a plaintiff's theories, speculation, or statutory interpretation." *See id*. (citing *Hodges*, 337 Ark. 470, 989 S.W.2d 530 (1999)).

5. The Claims Commission elects to exclude the evidence attached to Respondent's motion for purposes of considering this motion to dismiss. *See* Ark. R. Civ. P. 12(b). This exclusion relates only to this motion to dismiss. Respondent is free to use these documents as permitted by all applicable rules of practice and procedure and to file a motion for summary judgment once discovery is completed.

6. The Claims Commission finds that dismissal of Claimant's claim is premature.

7. Respondent's motion to dismiss is DENIED, and the parties are instructed to conduct discovery.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Servy C. Kinslow

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

Courtney Baird Dexter Booth Henry Kinslow, Co-Chair Paul Morris, Co-Chair Sylvester Smith

DATE: August 29, 2022

Notice(s) which may apply to your claim

- (1) A party has forty (40) days from the date of this Order to file a Motion for Reconsideration or a Notice of Appeal with the Claims Commission. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(1). If a Motion for Reconsideration is denied, that party then has twenty (20) days from the date of the denial of the Motion for Reconsideration to file a Notice of Appeal with the Claims Commission. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(1)(B)(ii). A decision of the Claims Commission may only be appealed to the General Assembly. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(3).
- (2) If a Claimant is awarded less than \$15,000.00 by the Claims Commission at hearing, that claim is held forty (40) days from the date of disposition before payment will be processed. *See* Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a). <u>Note</u>: This does not apply to agency admissions of liability and negotiated settlement agreements.
- (3) Awards or negotiated settlement agreements of \$15,000.00 or more are referred to the General Assembly for approval and authorization to pay. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-215(b).

Mika Tucker

From:	Leslie Browning (DOC)
Sent:	Wednesday, September 21, 2022 1:33 PM
То:	ASCC Pleadings
Cc:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Subject:	Michael Todd 221393
Attachments:	Interr & RFPD to Inmate.pdf; RFA to Inmate.pdf

RFA and Interr to Claimant

Leslie Browning

Arkansas Division of Correction

Central Office/Legal Division 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, AR 71602 Legal Support Specialist Phone: 870-267-6844 Email: leslie.browning@arkansas.gov

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD

CLAIMANT

V

CLAIM NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS DIVISION OF CORRECTION

RESPONDENT

FIRST SET OF INTERROGATORIES AND REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION PROPOUNDED TO CLAIMANT

In accordance with Rules 33 and 34 of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure, Defendant hereby requests the answers and responses to the following Interrogatories and Requests for Production. You are required to serve your answers and responses at the expiration of thirty (30) days from the date upon which you receive a copy of these Interrogatories and Requests for Production.

INTERROGATORY NO. 1: Please list all witness you may call in relation to this matter and a synopsis of their expected testimony.

INTERROGATORY NO. 2: Please state why monies you paid out of

pocket for medical treatment.

INTERROGATORY NO. 3: Please state who you told that you needed an

enemy alert for Inmate Aaron Rutherford (1000, James Gould (1000) and Eddie

Daniels (

INTERROGATORY NO. 4:

have a "shank"

INTERROGATORY NO. 5:

Please state who "Allowed" the Inmate(s) to

you.

Please state how officers failed to protect

Please state how ADC is liable for the acts **INTERROGATORY NO. 6:** of third parties.

Officers this claim against the **INTERROGATORY NO. 7:** Is individually.

INTERROGATORY NO. 8:

INTERROGATORY NO. 9:

Inmates Rutherford, Gould, and Daniels.

INTERROGATORY NO. 10:

their diagnosis.

INTERROGATORY NO. 11:

\$50,000.00 in damages

INTERROGATORY NO. 12:

Please state why you should receive money.

Please state what "beef" you had with

What Doctors have you seen and what were

Please state how you came up with

Please state what your measure of damages

is.

REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

<u>REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION NO. 1</u>: Please attach a copy of any documents you plan to introduce in any hearing of this matter

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Burns (02006) **Division of Correction** Legal Department 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, AR 71602 (870) 267-6845 Office (870) 267-6373 Facsimile thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this pleading has been served this 21st day of September 2022, on the Claimant by placing a copy of the same in the U. S. Mail, regular postage to:



Thomas Burns

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD

CLAIMANT

V

CLAIM NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS DIVISION OF CORRECTION

RESPONDENT

FIRST SET OF REQUESTS FOR ADMISSIONS TO CLAIMANT

Comes now, the Plaintiff, Arkansas Department of Corrections, (ADC), by and through their attorney, Thomas Burns, and for their First Set of Requests for Admissions to Michael Todd, to be answered in accordance with the Arkansas Rule of Civil Procedure, states:

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 1: Admit that you do not have any damages related to this matter Claim 221393.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 2: Admit that you did not pay for medical care for the incident complained of in 221393.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 4: Admit that you are making a section 1983 claim in claim 210581.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 5: Admit that you had provoked Inmate Gould, Rutherford, and Daniels.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 6: Admit that ADC acted pursuant to policy.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 7: Admit that you do not have any monetary loss.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 8: Admit that there is not a deduction for your medical care

Filed 21 September 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Burns (02006) Department of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, AR 71602 (870) 267-6845 Office (870) 267-6373 Facsimile thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this pleading has been served this 21st day of September 2022, on the Claimant by placing a copy of the same in the U. S. Mail, regular postage to:

Michael Todd (

Thomas Burns

BHORE THE ARKINSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMESSION Arkansas MICHAEL TODD # 221 393 State Claims Commission A/MANLT OCT 0 5 2022 Respondent ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION DIVISION OF CORRECTION RECEIVED Response TO FRIST SET OF REQUESTS FOR ADMISSIONS TO CLANMENT Comes Now The Clament Michael Todd no see with his RESPONCE TO FIRST Set OF Request For Admission STATES: 1 YES I HAVE DAMAGES Related to This matter al parage 2. EVERY ONE PAYS Medical CO PAY, I was or had to be TRANSferred TO Forrest City HOSPITAL. SO SOMEONE HAD to PAY FOR This TVIP to The Hospital ... 4. AS FOR This # 4 Question T KNOW Norming about 5. I DIDN'T Provoke Gould Rutherford OR DAniels. 6. A.D.C VIOLATED POLICY. BREACH OF Security 7. MONELARY LOGS -> EVERY Thing 8. There is Always & Deduction For Any/All Medical CARE ADDOINTMONTS FILED 27 Sept 2022 Michael Topp CERTIFICATE of Service I Certify that A LOPY of This pleading has been served 29th day of sept > the Respondent by placeing a con of the same on the U.S. Meuil, Req POSTAGE TO: Thomas Burns (122006) 6814 Princeton PKZ 47 Piere Bluff Ar Thor

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Michael TODO Claimant # 221393 ARKANSAS Dopartment of Coppection S DIVISION OF Correction Tespondent First SET OF INTERROGATORIES / Request FOR PROduction PROPOUNDED TO CLAIMONT In Accordance with Rules 33/34. OF The, ARKansas Lukes of Civil Roods Procedure, Clarmant hereby Answers Responds To The Following Interrogatories And Request For Production -# 1. SAT Smith - SAT GRAINVILLE - COI DALE, SAT Wilson - Nurse WY I WAX ost wits lok The #9 No only Toki me I Nooded A enemy Alert ER Any OF These People # 4. SECURITY HAD to Allow Them to HAVE A SHANK" # 5. BREACH OF SECURITY - Security LIGHT WAS Covered up! Security Made No Rounds, Only ONE Female OFFicer WAS ON POOT OVER 240 Inmates, SHORTAGE OF STAFF IS A FAILURE TO PROTECT # les ADC 15 liable because shortage of STAFF. HAD officers made Rounds Security Lights would have been Uncovered. IT Security HAD DONE Proper Shake Down / Pat Searches They would have Discovered The Shart I was STAbbed with. 48

* 7. This Claim is Asmot A.D.C. # 8. Because I should be compensated For The AIN/ Suffering I went/going Threw - For ADC BREACH of Security X 9. I HAD NO BEEF with infacte Gould, Dainels, Rutherford Ø. And the Disconstal Certificate of Service

I certify That A COPY of This Pleading has been Served This 28th day of sept 2022 on The Respondent ADC by Placeing & Copy of the same of the US MAIL Kegular Postage to: Thomas Burns (02006) DHUISION of Corrections 6814 Hringeton Pike Pine Bluff AR' 71602 Request From Infirmary -DIRECTOR/ADE WARDEN DESIGN -> Hearing

49

Mika Tucker

From:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Sent:	Monday, October 10, 2022 11:16 AM
То:	ASCC Pleadings
Cc:	Leslie Browning (DOC)
Subject:	Michael Todd v ADC 221393
Attachments:	0256_001.pdf

Safe Harbor Letter

Thomas Burns General Counsel Arkansas Department of Corrections Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff Arkansas 71602 Phone: (870) 267-6845 Fax: (870) 267-6373 Cell: (870) 515-0918 thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

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LEGAL DIVISION

6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71602 Phone: (870) 267-6844 | Fax: (870) 267-6373 DOC.ARKANSAS.GOV

October 10, 2022



Re: Michael Todd v ADC Claim Number 221393

Dear Mr. Todd:

I am in receipt of your discovery responses to Request for Admissions, Interrogatories and Production of Documents. These are not correctly formatted, nor correctly stated, in accordance with Rules 26, 33, 36, and 37 of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure. Arkansas law makes it clear that Pro Se parties are held to the same standards as attorney and are presumed to know the law. I am pointing you to the correct rules so that you may correct deficiencies and be in compliance with the rules of Civil Procedure.

Currently, we are seeking these corrections without the intervention of the Claims Commission. We will hold off for twenty-one (21) days to allow for you to have time to correct these deficiencies. Should you fail to correct the responses we will be forced to file a motion to compel, or sanctions as allowed by the Rules.

Very truly your Thomas Burns Legal Departmen Arkansas Division of Correction

TB/ cc: File ASCC

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Michael TODD H Arkansas (22139 State Claims Commission Claimant ARKANSAS Department of Corrections OCT 222022 DIVISION of Correction Received Received OCT 2 2 2022 Respondent MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME Comes Now Claimant Mlichnel Todd PRO'SE Filing His Motion For Extension of Time For The Following Reason's: TO Being Housed in The LAN THE Because Due HAVE Access TO The LAN THE HAVE to WAIT ON. Then which we only see them onle A week IF Then. Ive File To the Best of my Knowledge Answered The discovery Response's to Request For Admissions, INterrogatories / Productions of Documents - BUT MR BURNS SOON TO Keep Assuming that ARKANISAS LAW MAKES it clear That Prose Parties are held to the same Standards AS REAL (Attorney-LAWYErs) And ARE Presumed To know The LAW. Ste Nonce FROM Legal DIVISION 10-10-22 The objected to MR BURNS Motion To Dismiss / Showed A Bth CIRCUIT CASE Where PROSE PARTies 'ARE NOT'TO be Held TO The Same STANdard AS A Attorney.... GRANT His Morrial And Allow Him Time to TRY TO ANSWER The Requested Response's Accordingly. 52 A-2022 - 14 - Requested Response's Accordingly. 52 Rosponte OCT 19-2022



1. FOR RULE 26-CAN I Request The <u>Camera Footrace</u> FOR The Night of This Incident 33 3-2-22 AT OR AROUND 10:30 PM -> SHOWING Security Lights covered up.

2. I Request The Security Log As Capt Harris Admits Shortario of slago

(OI DALE - Col Wilson- Request Her Phonott. Nurse That with was on Duty the night of Report Logged in.



LEGAL DIVISION

6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71602 Phone: (870) 267-6844 | Fax: (870) 267-6373 DOC.ARKANSAS.GOV

October 10, 2022



Re: Michael Todd v ADC Claim Number 221393

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Very truly your Thomas Burns Legal Department Arkansas Division of Correction

TB/ cc: File ASCC

Mika Tucker

From:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Sent:	Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:46 PM
То:	ASCC Pleadings
Cc:	Leslie Browning (DOC)
Subject:	Michael Todd v ADC 221393
Attachments:	0625_001.pdf

Motion Deem Admitted

Thomas Burns General Counsel Arkansas Department of Corrections Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff Arkansas 71602 Phone: (870) 267-6845 Fax: (870) 267-6373 Cell: (870) 515-0918 thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

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BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD

CLAIMANT

v.

NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS RESPONDENT DIVISION OF CORRECTION

MOTION TO DEEM REQUESTS FOR ADMISSIONS ADMITTED

Comes now, the Respondent, Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC), by and through their attorney, Thomas Burns, and for their Motion, states:

1. On September 21, 2022, Respondent caused to be served via US Mail on

Claimant a set of Requests for Admissions. See attached Ex. A

2. As such the Claimant responses to the Requests became due on Oct 21,

2022. The inmate responded on September 27, 2022. See attached Ex B.

3. The inmates responses did not comport to the Rules of Civil Procedure

and the inmate was sent a safe harbor letter seeking the information without the

Commission as stated by the rules. See attached Ex C.

4. The Claimant answers to not comport to the responses as prescribed by Rule 36(a) despite giving the inmate an additional 21 days. The inmate has failed and refused to respond.

5. The permissible responses, according to **RULE 36(a)**, are, (1) **admit**; (2) **deny**; (3) object, stating the reasons for the objection; (4) state the reasons why the responding party can neither **admit** or **deny**; (5) **admit** or **deny** to the remainder; or (6) **admit** or **deny** in whole or in part with qualification. In one of the few cases construing the **rule**, for example, the Court of Appeals held that "**denied**" was an adequate response. Even if a party has no personal knowledge, he or she must answer a request for admission if the information can be obtained through reasonable inquiry. Chiodini v Lock; 2010 Ark

App 340.

6. *Chiodini* is very clear that the inmates response do not compart to the rule.

The Supreme Court has said in that ruling, only the six responses above are

permissible.

7. ARCP Rule 36(a) states in part:

Each matter of which an admission is requested shall be separately set forth. The matter is admitted unless, within 30 days after service of the request, the party to whom the request is directed served upon the party requesting the admission a written answer or objection addressed to the matter, signed by the party or by his attorney... If objection is made, the reasons therefore shall be stated. The party answering requests for admissions shall repeat each request immediately before the answer or objection. The answer shall specifically admit or deny the matter or set forth in detail the reasons why the answering party cannot truthfully admit or deny the matter. A denial shall fairly meet the substance of the requested admission, and when good faith requires that a party qualify his answer or deny only part of the matter of which an admission is requested, he shall specify so much of it as is true and qualify or deny the remainder. An answering party may not give lack of information or knowledge as a reason for failure to admit or deny unless he states that he has made reasonable inquiry and that the information known or readily obtainable by his is insufficient to enable him to admit or deny. A party who considers that a matter of which an admission has been requested presents a genuine issue for trial may not, on that ground alone, object to the request; he may, subject to the provisions of Rule 37(c), deny the matter or set forth reasons why he cannot admit or deny it...[emphasis added].

The Rule says the responses SHALL repeat each request. The true meaning of

SHALL is that it must happen. Since that has not happened and the Rule and the ruling in

Chodini was not followed the matter is deemed admitted.

8. Responses to requests for admissions: the inmate states yes or makes no

response at all, these are improper. They do not constitute a denial, and in fact amounted

to admissions of the truth of the statements contained in the requests. Young v Dodson

239 Ark 143 (1965).

9. Requests for Admissions have their own procedures and requirements, which results in automatic consequences for failure to respond that are similar to though more stringent than failing to respond to pleadings, and much more stringent than those for failing to respond to written discovery such as Interrogatories and Requests for Production. No mention of any specific Requests for Admissions is made anywhere, and no specific issue is taken, even by the respondent's own pleading, with any of the substance of the Requests for Admissions; to the extent any of the requests propounded are considered improper by the respondent, they were not independently objected to with grounds laid out in good faith as mandated by the above-quoted Rule. In any case, by the plain language of Rule 36, as quoted in paragraph 6 hereof, the matters on which admission was sought are deemed admitted. *Compare with Widmer v. Wood, 243 Ark. 547, 420 S.W.2d 828 (1967).*

10. Rule 36(a) further states that "The provisions of Rule 37(a)(4) apply to the award of expenses incurred in relation to the motion." Here, the Imamate has wholly failed to admit, deny, or properly object to any of the propounded requests. Respondent should be granted a reasonable fee for this motion.

11. The Claimant has not followed the Rules or Supreme Court ruling as set out for Responses to Requests for Admissions, as such the Requests **SHALL** be deemed admitted.

WHEREFORE, the Respondent prays that the Requests for Admission be Deemed Admitted; for attorney's fees and costs; and for all other just and proper relief to which he may be entitled.

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Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Burns (02006) Legal Department 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff Arkansas 71602 Telephone (870) 267-6845 Fax (870) 267-6373 thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this pleading has been served this 27th day of October 2022, on the Claimant by placing a copy of the same in the U. S. Mail, regular postage to:

Michael Todd

The mas Burns

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD (

v

CLAIMANT

CLAIM NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS DIVISION OF CORRECTION

RESPONDENT

FIRST SET OF REQUESTS FOR ADMISSIONS TO CLAIMANT

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REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 7: Admit that you do not have any monetary loss.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 8: Admit that there is not a deduction for your medical care

Filed 21 September 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Burns (02006) Department of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, AR 71602 (870) 267-6845 Office (870) 267-6373 Facsimile thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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Michael Todd (

Thomas Burns

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION CLAIMant MICHAH TEOD # 221 393 ARKANSAS DODARMANT OF Conceptions Respondent Respondent. To FARST SET OF Request Top ADMission To CLARMANT RESPONCE TO TARST Set OF Request Tor Admission To clarmant states. DIS Jes I HAVE DAMAGES Related to This Matter Marin 121393 TRANSferred TO The FORREST CAY HOSDITAL, So Some one HAD TO PAY FOR This TRIP TO The HOSPITATION 4. AS FOR This # 4 Question "I know Northing About This CLAIM# 210581 5. I DiDNH Provoke Gould, Rutharlord OR Danliels. 6. ADC DID VICIATE BLICK - BRACH OF SOCURITY. 1. MontetARY LOSS ->?-> EVERYTHING Bo There is Alment's A Deduction For Any All Medical CARE APPOINTMENTS. FilED 27 Sept 2022 Cortificate of Service I Certify flint A COPY of this Pleading has been served This 28th day of sept 2022 on the Respiratent by Placeinia A Copy of the SAME in the US. MAIL Regular Restage 70: Thomas Burns (02006) 6814 Avincelon Pike Drive 1310 AR Michael redd 41602 ENFINERY Request Director / ADC worden Dision For Hocirins 62 FYB



LEGAL DIVISION

6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71602 Phone: (870) 267-6844 | Fax: (870) 267-6373 DOC.ARKANSAS.GOV

October 10, 2022

Michae	el Todo	d (
		1 00	1 1	

Re: Michael Todd v ADC Claim Number 221393

Dear Mr. Todd:

I am in receipt of your discovery responses to Request for Admissions, Interrogatories and Production of Documents. These are not correctly formatted, nor correctly stated, in accordance with Rules 26, 33, 36, and 37 of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure. Arkansas law makes it clear that Pro Se parties are held to the same standards as attorney and are presumed to know the law. I am pointing you to the correct rules so that you may correct deficiencies and be in compliance with the rules of Civil Procedure.

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Very-truly yours Thomas Burns Legal Department Arkansas Division of Correction

TB/ cc: File ASCC

BEFORE THE ARKANISAS STATE CLAMMS COMMISSION Michael EDO ClAumant Claim No. 221393 ARMANISAS Department of Correction DIVISION of Correction Kespondent Response TO FIRST-Set of INterroRAtORIES REQUES POV 0 4 2022 State Claims Commiss FOR PRODUCTION PROPARADED TO CHArmant Interrogatories To The Best of his knowledge; INTERROGATORY NO. 7. Please List all Witness you MAY CALL ind Relation to This matter/a synopsis of their expected Testimony. 1. Lt Swith = Inmate Todd Came Down the Hallring to the man When our changeme com dry the same. A. The NURSE That was on duty That Night.

INTERROGATORY NO.2. Please state Will Montes You PAID OUT OF POCKET FOR Medical TReatment. Dont Understand QUOSTION.... INTERROGATORY ALO. 3. Please STATE Who Total You Total Vou Needed a many aleart FOR JENNE AROD. Rothers rd. 164392 James Gould Man / Eddie Daniels Man - 210 ONE. Because I Never And Too. INTERROGATORY NO. 4: Please State who "Allowed" The Inmedies to have A Shank = Security 8 TATERROGATORY 10:5: Please state how OFFICERS failed TS PROTECT YOU. - OFFICERS FAIL TO PROJECT ME BECAUSE NO OFFICERS FAILED TS MADE A Security Round - NO OFFICER Uncovered the Security Light. Ciniy A Young Female was on the DOOR FOR Security Because of Schorlage of Staff, officers fail to Search inmates Tor Sharks. Officers DiDnt Ste All the Comption going On when I was bold Stabbed.

Inttorrectioned No. 6: Please State how ADL 15 liable For ACTS OF Third Marties - Bocause LIA motes with shanks in BKS 2. ShoetAge of staff 3. Security lights being covered up Staff MAHE Lound they woold Soe the lights covered up H. IF Not Tok Shortage of Staff They Some One Could have getter IN The BKS IN time to Stop The Stabbrille.

Interrogatory No 9: Please State what Boef You had with Interrogatory No 9: Please State what Boef You had with Interrogatory No 9: Please State what Boef You had with

Interrogatory No.10: what Dr's have you soon / what were Their Dragnosis -> Whatever Dr in Forcest City That Documented The Night of the incident I He stid I had A Fractored Nose FRACTORED OR HEAD TRUMA, STICHES 12 IN LEft EVE, 19 Stabbs eer INterrogatory No 11: Please state how you came up with 50,000,00 ral damages - That Amount is Just To Kaup FROM Going thru 1983 Civil Suite ... Interrogatory NO 12: Mease state what your measure of DAMages 13. -

eetfully Schmitted

Cartificate of Service

This 22th day of Oct 2022 on the channel by placing a copy of the Same in the US Mail regular postage to:

Thomas Bury (02006) DIVISION of Correction 6814 Minceton Pike Pime Bluff AR 21602

Michael to

66

BEFORE THE ARMANSAS STATE CLA	ins Commission
Michael TODO CLAIM NO 221393	Chimant
ARKANSAS DEPARtment of Corrections DIVISION OF CORRECTION	Respondent
RESPONSE TO FIRST SET OF REQUESTS FOR TO LLAMMONT	
To Respondents First set of Requests For 1	oslons .
REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO.1: Admit that you do a DAmages related to This CLAIM 221393, YE I DO HAVE DAMAGES TO MY LEFT EVE STICHES WERE, GO HOLD MY EVELID	SI ADMITT WHERE 12
REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 2= Admit That to Medical CARE FOR The incident complained of the I DID NOT PAY BECAUSE The ADC WI BREACH OF SECURITY	7/593. T 4/bas +
Request Joiz Admission NO. 4 Admit that you are a Claim IN Claim 210581, DENVE T YOUN	Making a section 1983 Nerthing About
Request For Admission NO. 55 Admit that you Gould, DENY: I was in my RACK Asleep- The	ats Not Prevexing ?
Request For Admission NO, 6= Admit that TO POLICY - DENY: policy is to prove sec Request For Admission NO, 7= Admit Theat	ADC ACTED Pursaint une The safety of immates? Vou do not have any
Monetary 1053. I Deny Because I & TO Answer This Question. Request For Admission NO 8= Admit H Deduction For Your Medical Care- A Grow Fee For Any Medical Car	Do NOT Know How hat there is A Thomas I There is
	67

Filed 22 OCT 2022



Certificate of Service

This 22nd day of Oct 2022, on The Respondent by placeing A Copy of the same in the U.S. Mihil regular fostage to?

Thomas Burns (02006) Department of Corrections 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, AR T1602

Muchu It

Defore THE ARKANSA'S STATE CLAIM'S COMMISSION Michael Todd # CHAIMANT CLAIM No: 221.393 13. ARNHUSAS DOPARTMENT OF CORREctions DIVISION OF CORRECTION Rospondent First BET OF INTERROGATORIES REQUEST FOR TRODUCTION PROPOUNDED TO RESPONDENT Courses Now Clasmant Michael Todd with his First set OF Interrogatories Request For Production Robunded To Respondent As Follows: INTERROGATORY NO 1: Please Produce OR HAVE The CAMERA FOOTAGE OF The Incident The Night OF 3-2-22, 10:50 PM At ANY HEARING PRELATING to This Whatter / A SYNOPSIS OF What you HAVE REWanded INTERROGATORY NO. 2: Please State The REASON FOR Security LIGHTS . INTERROGATORYNO3: Please glate "Is being studied IN The EYE/ To HOID IT TO Gether" Deline DAMAGes INTERROGATORY NO.4: PLEASE STATE What I'S COMPENSATION? INTERPOGATORY NO. 5: Please STATE Why The WARden DIRECTOR FOUND MY GRIEVONCE TO have merit. INTERROGATORY NO. 6: Please State How INMATES Got SHANKS" PAST SOCURITY. INSIDE THE BARRACKS. INTERROGATORY NO.7: Please Slate How/ why The ADC House Non-Violant offenders with Violant offenders, INTERROGATORY NO.8: Please state How A whole Conviction CAN be LegAL > 153 years NON VIOLANT AND NO ARREST QUEV Issued?

INTERROGATION 16.9: Please HAVE Incident Report-FROM HOSPHAL / JUGRMARY SINCE CLAIMANT Connet Anne Access To It. Mechant Submitted in Michael Zocici#935000 Michael Tod P.O. Box 970 MARIANNA, Y-AR 72360 Certificate of Service This 22^{wel} day of Oct 6022 on the Respondent by Placing a Copy of the same in the US Mail Rogular Postage To: Thomas Burgh (02006) DIVISION of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Block AR 71607



BEFORE THE ARMANISAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION MICHACI TODD Claimant CLAIM NO: 221393 ARKANSAS DEPARMENT OF CORRECTIONS Division of correction Responding exid. FIRST SET OF REQUEST FOR ADMISSIONS to RESPONDENT some's Now the Claiment Nlichael Tool FIRST Set of Request, For Admissions TO Respondents To be Answered in Accordance with the ARK Rule of Civil Request For Admission No.1: Admit That Comerce FootAGE Could not see inside the BArrenck The Night of This Incident. Request For Admission No 2. Idual be wonsfered to had te Nequest For Admission 110 91 TO HAVE hat I had Kellivest 7 have Lost my life Due to This Breach of Security Alon NO 7: Admit That I Could Request For Admission NO 5: ADmitt That The Wardon / DIRECTOR Already ADmitted Fault - ON Thurs to do with me being held mit That you had some SO I can't be M Population where I can Get Help Reduest For Admission No 7: Admit That I was in my TACK ASIGEP When I WAS burthing Attacked



Certificate of Service

I Certify that A COPY of This Pleading has break Served This 22nd day OF Oct 2022 out the Respondent by Placeing a Copy OF The Same IN The U.S. MAIL Regular Postage TO:

TROMAS BLIRA (02006) DIVISION OF CORREctical 6814 PRINCETEN PIKE DINE BLORG, AR 71602

72
Mika Tucker

From:	Leslie Browning (DOC)
Sent:	Friday, November 18, 2022 1:57 PM
То:	ASCC Pleadings
Cc:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Subject:	Michael Todd 221393
Attachments:	ADC Resp Interr.pdf; ADC Resp RFA.pdf

ADC Response to RFA and Interrogatories

Leslie Browning

Arkansas Division of Correction

Central Office/Legal Division 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, AR 71602 Legal Support Specialist Phone: 870-267-6844 Email: <u>leslie.browning@arkansas.gov</u>

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

NO. 221393

MICHAEL TODD (ADC

CLAIMANT

V.

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

RESPONDENT

ADC RESPONSES TO FIRST SET OF INTERROGATORIES/REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION PROPOUNDED TO RESPONDENT

COMES NOW, The Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC), by and through their attorney, Thomas Burns, and for their responses, state:

INTERROGATORY NO. 1: Please produce or have the camera footage of the incident the night of 3-2-22, 10:50 pm at any hearing relating to this matter/a synopsis of what you have reviewed...

RESPONSE: Objection, this is not a proper interrogatory, is beyond the scope of discovery and violates ADC policy about information given to inmates based upon the safety and security of the facility, staff, and inmates. The ADC will comply with the order of the Commission regarding materials to be presented at the final hearing of this matter.

INTERROGATORY NO. 2: Please state the reason for security lights.

RESPONSE: ADC objects to this interrogatory as any inmate having this information violates ADC policy about information being given to inmates based upon the safety and security of the facility, staff, and inmates.

INTERROGATORY NO. 3: Please state "is being stabbed in the eye/having to

define damages?

RESPONSE: ADC objects as it call for a legal conclusion.

INTERROGATORY NO. 4: Please state what is compensation.

RESPONSE: Pursuant to Merrian-Webster online dictionary, 1. (a) the act of compensating: the state of being compensated; (b) correction of an organic defect or loss by hypertrophy or by increased function of another organ or unimpaired parts of the same organ; (c) a psychological mechanism by which feelings of inferiority, frustration, or failure in one field are counterbalanced by achievement in another; 2. (a)(1) something that constitutes an equivalent or recompense; (a)(2) payment to unemployed or injured workers of their dependents; (b) payment, remuneration.

INTERROGATORY NO. 5: Please state why the Warden/Director found my grievance to have merit.

RESPONSE: Objection, this is vague, beyond the scope of discovery, and violates ADC policy about information to be given to inmates based upon the safety and security of the facility, staff, and inmates

INTERROGATORY NO. 6: Please state how inmates got "shanks" past security. Inside the barracks.

RESPONSE: Objection, this is vague, unduly burdensome, and beyond the scope of discovery and violates ADC policy about information given to inmates based upon the safety and security of the facility, staff, and inmates. The ADC will comply with the order of the Commission regarding materials to be presented at the final hearing of this matter.

INTERROGATORY NO. 7: Please state how/why the ADC house non-violent offenders with violent offenders.

RESPONSE: Objection, this is vague, unduly burdensome, and beyond the scope of discovery and violates ADC policy about information given to inmates based upon the safety and

security of the facility, staff, and inmates. The ADC will comply with the order of the Commission regarding materials to be presented at the final hearing of this matter.

INTERROGATORY NO. 8: Please state how a whole conviction can be legal-153 years non-violent and no arrest ever issued.

RESPONSE: This is not a proper interrogatory as it call for a legal conclusion.

INTERROGATORY NO. 9: Please have incident report from hospital/infirmary since Claimant cannot have access to it.

RESPONSE: Objection, this is not a proper interrogatory, this is formed as a request for production which pursuant to the Rules of Civil Procedure is incorrectly formed. In addition, ADC objects to this interrogatory as any inmate having this information violates ADC policy about information being given to inmates based upon the safety and security of the facility, staff, and inmates.

DATED: November 18, 2022



Thomas Burns (02006) Legal Department Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, AR 71602 (870) 267-6845 Office (870) 267-6373 Facsimile thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this pleading has been served this 18th day of November 2022, on the Claimant via email, to:

Michael Todd

Thomas Burns

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD (ADC

CLAIMANT

RESPONDENT

v

NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS DIVISION OF CORRECTION

ADC RESPONSE TO 2ND SET OF REQUESTS FOR ADMISSIONS TO RESPONDENT

Comes now, the Plaintiff, Arkansas Department of Correction, (ADC), by and through their attorney, Thomas Burns, and for their Response to 2nd Set of Requests for Admissions, in accordance with the Arkansas Rule of Civil Procedure, states:

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 1: Admit that camera footage could not see inside the barrack the night of this incident.

RESPONSE: ADC objects to this request as any inmate having this information violates

ADC policy about information being given to inmates based upon the safety and security of the facility, staff, and inmates.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 2: Admit that I had to be transferred to

RESPONSE: ADC has insufficient information to admit or deny this request. However, for purposes of this pleading, deny same

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 3: Admit that I had to have 12 stitches in my left eye.

RESPONSE: ADC has insufficient information to admit or deny this request. However, for purposes of this pleading, deny same

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 4: Admit that I could have lost my life due to this Breach of Security.

RESPONSE: ADC has insufficient information to admit or deny this request. However, for purposes of this pleading, deny same

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 5: Admit that the Warden/Director already admitted fault on grievance response.

RESPONSE:

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 6: Admit that you had something to do with me being held in seg max in this cell so I can't be in population where I can get help with this claim.

RESPONSE: ADC has insufficient information to admit or deny this request. However, for purposes of this pleading, deny same.

REQUEST FOR ADMISSION NO. 7: Admit that I was in my rack asleep when I was brutally attached.

RESPONSE: ADC has insufficient information to admit or deny this request.

However, for purposes of this pleading, deny same

Filed 18th November 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Burns (02006) Department of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, AR 71602 (870)267-6845 Office (870)267-6373 Facsimile thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this pleading has been served this 18th day of November 2022, on the Claimant by placing a copy of the same in the U. S. Mail, regular postage to:

Michael Todd

Thomas Burns

LN THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

Micheal Todd CLAIMANT Arkansas ADCH State Claims Commission JAN 2 5 2023 V, CASE No. 221393 RECEIVED RESPONDENT ARMANSAS DIVISION OF CORRECTION, ARKANSAS Department of Correction CLAIMANT'S PLEADING FOR PRODUCING DOCUMENTS, ElECTRENICALLY STORED IN FORMATION, AND TANBIBLE THINGS, OR ENTENING ONTO LAND, FOR INSPECTION AND OTHER PURPOSES COMES NOW The CLAIMANT, MICHEAL TODD, ADC, with his pleading for Preduction of documents pursionit to Arth. R. C. P. 34 requesting Re respondent to produce The following deciments within The Next 30 days. The CLAIMANT'S Verywest The Respondent to do The following! (1) to produce and permit the requesting party or its representative to inspect, copy test, or sample the following items in the responding party's possession, clustody, or (outrol! (A) any designated documents or electronically stored information - including writings drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, sound recordings, images, information can be obtained either directly or, if necessary, after townshition by any responding party inthe a reasonably usable form; or (B) any designated tangible things; or (2) to promit entry onto designated land or other property possessed or controlled by The responding party, so that The requesting party may inspect, measure, survey photographytest, or sample the property or any designated object or operation and it.

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Paye lof2

REQUESTING 1. CAMERA FootAge -> of incident 2. Incident Report Photos 3. Statement FRom Sgt Gronville, 2+ Smith, COI DALE, Infirmary Report 4. Transfer Report 5. DR's Report And anage That 00

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE I Certify That A Copy of this pleading has BREN Served This 22 day January 2023 on The Respondent By placeing it Copy of the same in the U.S. postage Regular MAIL TO; ARKANSAS STATE CLAIM COMMUSSION 101 E, CAPITOL AVE SUITE 410 Little Rock AR 72201-3823 84

Mika Tucker

From:	Misty Scott on behalf of ASCC Pleadings
Sent:	Monday, February 13, 2023 11:55 AM
То:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Cc:	Leslie Browning (DOC); ASCC Pleadings; Mika Tucker
Subject:	ORDER: Michael Todd v. ADC, Claim Nos. 221393 and 230137
Attachments:	Michael Todd v. ADC3.pdf; Michael Todd-order2.pdf

Thomas:

Please see attached. Contact Mika Tucker with any questions.

Thank you,

Místy

Misty Scott Arkansas State Claims Commission

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

(501) 682-1619 FAX (501) 682-2823



KATHRYN IRBY DIRECTOR

101 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE SUITE 410 LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-3823

February 13, 2023

Mr. Michael Todd (ADC

Mr. Thomas Burns Arkansas Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71602-9411 (via email)

Re: *Michael Todd v. Arkansas Division of Correction* Claim Nos. 221393 and 230137

Dear Mr. Todd and Mr. Burns:

Enclosed please find the Order entered on February 9, 2023, by the Arkansas State Claims Commission. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Mika Tucker

ES: msscott

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD (ADC 0)

CLAIMANT

V.

CLAIM NO. 221393 CLAIM NO. 230137

ARKANSAS DIVISION OF CORRECTION

RESPONDENT

<u>ORDER</u>

Now before the Arkansas State Claims Commission (the "Claims Commission") is the motion filed by the Arkansas Division of Correction (the "Respondent") seeking to deem admitted its requests for admission propounded to Michael Todd (the "Claimant") in Claim No. 221393. Also pending is the motion filed by Respondent to dismiss Claim No. 230137 of Claimant. Based upon a review of the motions, the arguments made therein, and the law of Arkansas, the Claims Commission hereby finds as follows:

<u>Claim No. 221393</u>

1. Claimant filed his claim on May 20, 2022, seeking \$50,000.00 in damages. Claimant alleges he was stabbed in his face, arms, stomach and head when Respondent breached security.

2. Respondent filed a motion to dismiss, which was denied by the Claims Commission on August 29, 2022. As part of that order denying the motion to dismiss, the parties were instructed to begin discovery.

3. Respondent sent requests for admission to Claimant on September 21, 2022.

4. Claimant filed responses to these requests on October 5, 2022.

5. Respondent then filed a motion to deem admitted, arguing that Claimant's responses did not comport with Ark. R. Civ. Proc. 36(a).

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6. Claimant subsequently filed amended responses to Respondent's requests for admission.

7. The Claims Commission finds that Claimant's filing of amended responses to Respondent's requests for admission moots Respondent's motion to deem admitted. As such, the Claims Commission will DENY Respondent's motion to deem admitted.

8. The Claims Commission also notes that Claimant has filed a "Pleading for Producing Documents..." To the extent that this pleading is a motion for discovery, the Claims Commission notes Claimant is not required under the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure to move for discovery. As such, Claimant's pleading is DENIED as moot.

9. The parties are instructed to continue discovery and to notify the Claims Commission when discovery is nearing completion, so that this claim can be added to the hearing docket.

<u>Claim No. 230137</u>

10. Claimant filed Claim No. 230137 on August 1, 2022, seeking \$50,000.00 in damages related to his allegations that Respondent's employee threw coffee and food at him.

11. Respondent filed a motion to dismiss pursuant to Ark. R. Civ. Proc. 12(b)(6), arguing, *inter alia*, that Claimant's claims are not barred by sovereign immunity and the Claims Commission has no jurisdiction.

12. Claimant responded to the motion to dismiss, arguing, *inter alia*, that dismissal is not proper.

13. In reviewing Respondent's motion to dismiss, the Claims Commission must treat the facts alleged in the complaint as true and view them in a light most favorable to the Claimant. *See Hodges v. Lamora*, 337 Ark. 470, 989 S.W.2d 530 (1999). All reasonable inferences must be resolved in favor of the Claimant, and the complaint must be liberally construed. *See id*. However,

the Claimant must allege facts, not mere conclusions. *Dockery v. Morgan*, 2011 Ark. 94 at *6, 380 S.W.3d 377, 382. The facts alleged in the complaint will be treated as true, but not "a plaintiff's theories, speculation, or statutory interpretation." *See id.* (citing *Hodges*, 337 Ark. 470, 989 S.W.2d 530 (1999)).

14. The Claims Commission elects to exclude the evidence attached to Respondent's motion for purposes of considering this motion to dismiss. *See* Ark. R. Civ. P. 12(b). This exclusion relates only to this motion to dismiss. Respondent is free to use these documents as permitted by all applicable rules of practice and procedure and to file a motion for summary judgment once discovery is completed.

15. The Claims Commission finds that dismissal of Claimant's claim is premature.

16. Respondent's motion to dismiss is DENIED, and the parties are instructed to conduct discovery.

17. Respondent is free to file a separate motion briefing the jurisdictional issues referenced in its motion to dismiss.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Dexter Booth

Gerry C. Kinslow

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Henry Kinslow

Marri

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Paul Morris, Chair

DATE: February 9, 2023

Notice(s) which may apply to your claim

- (1) A party has forty (40) days from the date of this Order to file a Motion for Reconsideration or a Notice of Appeal with the Claims Commission. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(1). If a Motion for Reconsideration is denied, that party then has twenty (20) days from the date of the denial of the Motion for Reconsideration to file a Notice of Appeal with the Claims Commission. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(1)(B)(ii). A decision of the Claims Commission may only be appealed to the General Assembly. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(3).
- (2) If a Claimant is awarded less than \$15,000.00 by the Claims Commission at hearing, that claim is held forty (40) days from the date of disposition before payment will be processed. *See* Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a). <u>Note</u>: This does not apply to agency admissions of liability and negotiated settlement agreements.
- (3) Awards or negotiated settlement agreements of \$15,000.00 or more are referred to the General Assembly for approval and authorization to pay. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-215(b).

Mika Tucker

From:	Mika Tucker
Sent:	Monday, February 13, 2023 12:07 PM
То:	Thomas Burns (DOC); ASCC Pleadings
Cc:	Leslie Browning (DOC)
Subject:	RE: ORDER: Michael Todd v. ADC, Claim Nos. 221393 and 230137
Attachments:	Todd discovery requests and responses.pdf

Hi, Thomas. Please see attached.

Thank you, Mika

Mika Tucker Arkansas State Claims Commission 101 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 410 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 (501) 682-2818

From: Thomas Burns (DOC) <Thomas.Burns@arkansas.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2023 12:03 PM
To: ASCC Pleadings <ASCCPleadings@arkansas.gov>
Cc: Leslie Browning (DOC) <Leslie.Browning@arkansas.gov>; Mika Tucker <Mika.Tucker@arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: ORDER: Michael Todd v. ADC, Claim Nos. 221393 and 230137

This order states the inmate responded to admission in claim 221393 subsequent to our filing of a mtda. We have nothing showing an amended response. Could we please receive a copy?

-TB Legal Division Arkansas Department of Corrections Division of Correction

From: Misty Scott <<u>Misty.Scott@arkansas.gov</u>> On Behalf Of ASCC Pleadings
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2023 11:55 AM
To: Thomas Burns (DOC) <<u>Thomas.Burns@arkansas.gov</u>>
Cc: Leslie Browning (DOC) <<u>Leslie.Browning@arkansas.gov</u>>; ASCC Pleadings <<u>ASCCPleadings@arkansas.gov</u>>; Mika
Tucker <<u>Mika.Tucker@arkansas.gov</u>>
Subject: ORDER: Michael Todd v. ADC, Claim Nos. 221393 and 230137

Thomas:

Please see attached. Contact Mika Tucker with any questions.

Thank you,

Místy

Misty Scott Arkansas State Claims Commission

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Claimant Michnel Todd Cust: 221393 ARKANSOS Division of CORRECTION State Claims Commission XOTICE MAR 07 2023 RECEIVED Comes Now on This 28th day of Feb 2023 Claimant Michael TODD Filing Filing His NOTICE TO THE CLAYMS COMMUSSION THAT TO THE BEST OF HIS Knowledge And Concerns Discovery in This CASE IS Complete Finished. And CAN NOW BE SET FOR HEARING ... THANKS Respectfully= Michael rodd

Mika Tucker

From:	Kathryn Irby
Sent:	Tuesday, March 21, 2023 1:43 PM
То:	Thomas Burns (DOC); Leslie Browning (DOC)
Cc:	Mika Tucker
Subject:	HEARING SCHEDULED: Todd v. ADC, Claim No. 221393
Attachments:	Todd v. ADC 221393 hearing ltr.pdf

Thomas, please see attached. Please make sure Mr. Todd's unit is aware of this Zoom hearing. Thanks!

Kathryn

Kathryn Irby Arkansas State Claims Commission 101 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 410 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 (501) 682-2822

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

(501) 682-1619 FAX (501) 682-2823



KATHRYN IRBY DIRECTOR

101 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE SUITE 410 LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-3823

March 21, 2023

Mr. Michael Todd (ADC

Mr. Thomas Burns Arkansas Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71602-9411 (via email)

RE: *Michael Todd v. Arkansas Division of Correction* Claim No. 221393

Dear Mr. Todd and Mr. Burns,

The Claims Commission has scheduled this claim for hearing on **Friday**, **September 22**, **2023**, beginning at 9:00 a.m. All parties will attend via Zoom. The Zoom invitation is enclosed.

Each party's witness lists, exhibit lists, and exhibits are due by August 11, 2023. If the parties would like for the Claims Commission to review prehearing briefs, the briefs are due at the same time.

If Claimant would like to call other inmates or ADC employees as witnesses, Claimant will need to submit subpoena requests by August 11, 2023. The subpoena requests must include the witnesses' names and addresses. If ADC objects to issuance of any subpoena, ADC will have until August 16, 2023, to file a motion to quash or detailed objections to the witness's proposed testimony.

If Claimant would like to call a witness outside of ADC, Claimant will need to arrange for that witness's virtual attendance at the hearing. Claimant can direct the witness to contact the Claims Commission for the Zoom invitation. If a subpoena will be necessary to compel a witness'

testimony, Claimant will need to submit a subpoena request by August 11, 2023. The subpoena request must include the witness's name and address. Once the Claims Commission issues the subpoena, Claimant will need to have the subpoena served upon the witness pursuant to Rule 45 of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure.

If Respondent will require subpoenas in order to compel the testimony of any of its witnesses, those subpoena requests are also due on August 11, 2023.

Absent good cause shown, any subpoena requests received after August 11, 2023, will be denied.

To the extent that either party intends to file a motion of any kind, absent a showing of good cause, the motion must be submitted in sufficient time to allow the motion to be fully briefed by August 11, 2023.

Please note that a copy of any subpoena requests, witness lists, exhibit lists, and exhibits must be served upon the opposing party via U.S. Mail in accordance with the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Irby

ES: kmirby

The Claims Commission is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Claims Commission -- hearings Time: Sep 22, 2023 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88499326899?pwd=YUJTZi9ZRnFkbm9aeXdqcTVQUzRmQT09

Meeting ID: 884 9932 6899 Passcode: waf37R One tap mobile +13126266799,,88499326899#,,,,*482369# US (Chicago) +16469313860,,88499326899#,,,,*482369# US

Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 646 931 3860 US +1 929 436 2866 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC) +1 305 224 1968 US +1 309 205 3325 US +1 564 217 2000 US +1 669 444 9171 US +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose) +1 689 278 1000 US +1 719 359 4580 US +1 253 205 0468 US +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 360 209 5623 US +1 386 347 5053 US +1 507 473 4847 US Meeting ID: 884 9932 6899 Passcode: 482369 Find your local number: https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kbuhIwdfv2

April 11-23 Arkansas DEAR MS ISby CASES 221393-230137APR 13 2023 State Claims Commission IN THE TWO Above shown CASE'S How would I GO about getting A regociation Conversation? if I had any Question? IT possible I would like to Ask if we could Kill Two birds with one stone?" Little Stoke Too... ihanks -Sinceples 1 98

Mika Tucker

From:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Sent:	Monday, April 24, 2023 9:01 AM
То:	ASCC Pleadings
Cc:	Leslie Browning (DOC)
Subject:	Michael Todd v ADC 221393
Attachments:	4040_001.pdf

Motion for PO

Thomas Burns General Counsel Arkansas Department of Corrections Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff Arkansas 71602 Phone: (870) 267-6845 Fax: (870) 267-6373 Cell: (870) 515-0918 thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

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BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD (ADC

CLAIMANT

V

NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS RESPONDENT DIVISION OF CORRECTION

MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

Comes Now the Respondent, Arkansas Department of Corrections (ADC), by Thomas Burns, and for his Motion for Protective Order pursuant to Rule 26 (c) of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure, states:

1. In the course of Discovery, inmate has presented the ADC with a document purporting to be First 2^{nd} Set Interrogatories and Request for Production. *See attached Ex. A.* Also, he has presented First 2^{nd} set of Requests for Admission. *See attached Ex B*

2. The requests are the exact same request the Inmate made back in November 2022, which were answered.

3. A party may not use discovery for a fishing expedition. BHW v Metropolitan Nat. Bank, 267 Ark. 182, 590 S.W.2d 247 (Ark. 1997).

3. The proposed discovery will cause the Respondent annoyance, embarrassment, oppression or undue burden or expense.

4. The inmate is using discovery in a manner the is not in comport with the notions of good faith and fair dealing that are implicit under Rule 26 of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure.

5. Respondent relies on Ark. R. Civ. P. 26(c)(4) and requests the Commission to limit the matters and scope of discovery requested by the inmate. Rule 26 provides as follows:

Upon motion by a party or by the person from whom discovery is sought, and for good cause shown, the court in which the action is pending may make any order which justice requires to protect a party or person from annoyance, embarrassment, oppression, or undue burden or expense, including one or more of the following.....(2) that the discovery may be had only on specified terms and conditions, including a designation of the time or place.

6. The Court in which the action is pending may make any order which justice requires to protect a party so that certain matters not be inquired into, or that the scope of the discovery be limited to certain matters.

7. While there are no Arkansas cases on point, Rule 26(c) is the same as its Federal counterpart. The discovery rules were intended to allow the parties greater opportunity to gather information as to pertinent facts and documents within the knowledge and possession of the other party, in order to ensure a more adjudication on the merits. 27 C.J.S. Discovery § 1 (1959). They also were intended to guarantee accountability and to reduce surprise at trial. See J. Whigmore, Whigmore on evidence § 1845, at 487 (1976). The courts, however, are given broad authority to intervene to protect against abuses. See 27 C.J.S. Discovery § 2 (1959). The answer to discovery abuses is to employ reasonable measures to protect against unduly burdensome and unduly intrusive discovery inquiries. See 8 C. Wright & A. Miller, Federal Practice and Procedure § 2008, at 45 (1970). Therefore, the courts will protect against discovery efforts that are unreasonable and abusive. See 27 C.J.S. Discovery § 2 (1959)

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8. The Respondent asks this Commission require inmate to remove duplicative questions, immaterial inquires, and limit the scope of their inquiry to the action at hand, which is a straight forward claim wherein the Inmate just doesn't agree with the investigative outcome.

9. The inmate should have to pay a reasonable attorney fee for having to bring this protective order motion.

WHEREFORE, the Respondent prays that the Commission enter a Protective Order on behalf of the Respondent; that this Commission limit the scope and extent of inmate's discovery; for his attorney fees and costs; and for all other just and proper relief to which he may be entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Burns (02006) Legal Department Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, AR 71602 (870) 267-6845 Office (870) 267-6373 Facsimile thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the above pleading has been served this 24th day of April 2023, on the below Claimant by placing a copy of the same in the U. S. Mail, regular postage to:

Michael Todd (

Thomas Burns

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STITLE CLAMS COMMISSION Michael Todd CHAIMANT MAIM No: 221393 13. ARKHAISAS DOPARTMENT OF CORREctions DIVISION OF PORRACTION Rospondent First BET OF INTERROGATORIES REQUEST FOR TRODUCTION PROPOUNDED TO RESPONDENT Courses Now Claymont Michael Todd With his First Set OF InterioGraturies Request For Production Hoberdad To Respondent As Follows; INTERROGATORY NO 1: Please Produce OR HAVE The CAMERA FOOTAGE OF The Incident The Night OF 3-2-22, 10:50 PM At ANY HEARING RELATING to This Matter / A SYNOPSIS OF What you HAVE REViewledon . INTERROGATORY NO. 2: Please State The REASON FOR Security LIGHTS. INTERROGATORY NO.3: Please ship "To have arothed To INTERKOGHTORY NU, 7 . MEOSE STATE What I'S COMPENSATION? INTERROGATORY NO. 5: Please STATE Why The WARden DIRECTOR FOUND MY GRIEVONCE TO have merit INTERROGATORY NO. 6: Please State How INMATES Got "SHANKS" PAST SecuRITY. INSIDE THE BARRACKS. INTERROGATORY NO.7: Please Slate How Why The ADC House Non-Violant offenders with Violant offenders, INTERROGATORY NO. 8: Please state How A whole Conviction CAN be LegAL-> 153 years NON VIOLANT AND NO A RREST EVEN TSSuedi 103 EXA

INTERROGATION 16.9: Please HAVE Incident Report-FROM HOSPITAL / JUFFRMARY SINCE CLAIMANT Connect AAVE Access To It.

Michael Submitted in Michael Social Hg 3500 Michael Todel

Certificate of Service This 22nd day of Ort CO22 on the Respondent by Placing a Copy of the same in the US Mail Regular Postage To! Thomas Rupal (02006) DIVISION of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Block AR 71602

Huber 2g/

BEFORE THE ARHANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION MICHAGI TODI Claimant CLAIM NO: 221393 ARKANSAS DEPARMONT OF CORRECTIONS DIVISION OF CERRECHON Respondiona FIRST SET OF REQUEST FOR ADMISSIONS RESPONDENT some's Now the Claiment Nlichael Tool FIRST Set of Request For Admissions To Respondents To be Answered in Accordance with the ARK Rule of Civil Procedure, States: Request For Admission No.1: Admit That Commerce Footage Could not see inside the BArrenck The Night of This Incident. Request for Admission ato 2. 11 be wonsferred to rad te Rock A HI Admit That I Could have Lost my life Due to This Breach of Security Request For Admission 10 5: ADMitt That The Wardon / DIRECTOR Already ADmitted Fault - Onl Greivance Responce. Thinks to do with me being held the seg max in This Cell So I can't be the Population where I can Get Help With this Claimer.

Reduest For Admission No 7: Admit That I was in my

105 64 19



Certificate of Service

I Certify that A COPY of This Pleading has bread Served This 22nd day OF Oct 2022 out the Respondent by Placeing a Copy OF The Same IN The U.S. MAIL Regular Postace To:

THOMAS BLIRN (02006) DIVISION OF CORREction 6814 PRINCETON PIKE DINE BLORG, AR 71602

106

Mika Tucker

From:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Sent:	Thursday, August 17, 2023 10:49 AM
То:	ASCC Pleadings
Subject:	Michael Todd v ADC 221393
Attachments:	0488_001.pdf

Response to Motion

Thank you,

-TB



THOMAS BURNS PERCENTIANELAL CONTRACT PER-API CO-OVERCEAN Arkania- Department of Convetiens. 1946 Praneton Plan Part Phal, Arkania-Taril Photo, pilo 200 ent (gdb and (gdb) 200-63/5 stars) (gdb) 54 (arting/cd) House, Burn-tarkania-gov

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BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD (ADC

CLAIMANT

V.

NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS DIVISION OF CORRECTION

RESPONDENT

ADC RESPONSE TO MOTION FOR

Respondent, Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC), for its reply, states:

1. The ADC denies each and every allegation contained in the Inmate's motion unless specifically admitted herein.

2. The ADC denies paragraph 1, based on safety and security of the unit. Any video outside of the area if not requested within thirty (30) days would be rewritten.

3. The ADC has no idea what the inmate means in this paragraph, therefore denies.

4. The ADC denies paragraph 3. Inmates are not allowed medical records for their own personal safety and security.

5. The ADC denies paragraph 4 and home addresses of Officers will not be disclosed and are protected.

6. The inmate can use the proper discovery procedure if he wants, and he had received everything he has asked for in discovery.

7. The Inmate is held to the same standard as an attorney if he elects to proceed Pro Se. The Inmate continues to abuse the process and his claim should be dismissed with prejudice.
WHEREFORE, Respondent prays that this Motion for _____ be denied; that his claim be dismissed with prejudice; for their attorney's fees and costs; and all other just and proper relief to which they may be entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Burns (02006) Legal Support Unit Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, AR 71602 (870) 267-6845 Office (870) 267-6373 Facsimile thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this pleading has been served this 17th day of August 2023, on the Claimant by placing a copy of the same in the U. S. Mail, regular postage to:





IN THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COmmission Nlichael TODD Paimant Muset 221393 ARKHUSAS Department of Correction Responstore Charling Commission NOTION FOR AUG 21 2023 Filing His MOTION FOR Subpoena Regustion The RECEIVED Pio se Following REASON! I Claimant ASK That The Camera FootAge OF The Incident the Night OF 3-3-22 be Perserved For EXITIBIT'S AT The HAARING Sept 28 2023. HALLWAY OF 9,10,11,12 INSIDE 913KS 10:30 Pm. 2. INFREMARY REPORT of Movement /Transportation For the Incident ON 3-3-22 3. DR's Report From Fornest (ity Happila) 4. Withless Statements FROM: 1. Set Wilson 2. Set Grainvi Grainville ALL of which work For smith ADC ADDR653 WHEREFORE, the Clarmant Prays That the Motion For Subpond be Granted and All Other Just/Proper relief To which he may be entitled.



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE I Certify Thint A Copy of This pleading has Been served This 30 Day of July 00 2023 on the Respondent by placeing A Copy af The Same in the U.S. Postage regular MAIL to:

ARKIANISAS STATE CLAIM COMMUSSION 101 E. CAPITOL AVE. SUITE 410 LITTE ROCK AR ZZZOI-3823

From:	Mika Tucker
Sent:	Thursday, August 31, 2023 8:38 AM
То:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Subject:	RE: Michael Todd v ADC 221393

I apologize. I think this response may relate to Claimant's motion for subpoena. Please disregard my previous email. -Mika

From: Mika Tucker
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 8:36 AM
To: Thomas Burns (DOC) <Thomas.Burns@arkansas.gov>
Subject: FW: Michael Todd v ADC 221393

Hi, Thomas.

Could you clarify what motion this response is related to? We do not have a pending motion by the Claimant in this matter.

Thank you. -Mika

Mika Tucker Arkansas State Claims Commission 101 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 410 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 (501) 682-2818

From: Thomas Burns (DOC) <<u>Thomas.Burns@arkansas.gov</u>> Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 10:49 AM To: ASCC Pleadings <<u>ASCCPleadings@arkansas.gov</u>> Subject: Michael Todd v ADC 221393

Response to Motion

Thank you, -TB



THOMAS BURNS PEPUTA APALAL COLUMN. PEPAPE OF A VERICUAL Arkanan-Repartment of Converting. 1944 Pranoton Plan Funda, John 207400 (1970) (1990) 204404 (1970) (1990) 204404 (1970) (1990) 204404 (1970) (1990) 204404 (1970) (1990) 204404 (1970) (1990) 204404 (1970) Confidentiality Notice: This e-mail message and any attachments is the property of the State of Arkansas and may be protected by state and federal laws governing disclosure of private information. It is for the intended recipient only. If an addressing or transmission error has misdirected this e-mail, please notify the author by replying to it. If you are not the intended recipient you may not use, disclose, distribute, copy, print or rely on this email.

Arkansas State Claims Commission SEP 1 1 2023 RECEIVED THEARRANSA .1010 \subset 111AC L

114

From:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Sent:	Monday, September 18, 2023 8:55 AM
То:	Moses Jackson (DOC)
Cc:	Geneva Jones (DOC); Tyrone Allison (DOC); ASCC Pleadings; Mika Tucker
Subject:	RE: Claims Commission Hearing 9/22/2023

10-4 Thank you

-TB Legal Services Unit Arkansas Department of Corrections Division of Correction 870 267-6845-telephone

From: Moses Jackson (DOC) <Moses.Jackson@arkansas.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2023 8:35 AM
To: Thomas Burns (DOC) <Thomas.Burns@arkansas.gov>
Cc: Geneva Jones (DOC) <Geneva.Jones@arkansas.gov>; Tyrone Allison (DOC) <Tyrone.Allison@arkansas.gov>; ASCC
Pleadings <ASCCPleadings@arkansas.gov>; Mika Tucker <Mika.Tucker@arkansas.gov>
Subject: RE: Claims Commission Hearing 9/22/2023

Michael Todd (



Moses Jackson, III Superintendent Arkansas Department of Corrections East Arkansas Regional Unit East Arkansas Regional Maximum Security Unit 326 Lee Road 603 #601 Brickeys, AR 72320 (870) 295-4700 Unit (870) 540-7085 State cell (870)692-9761 Cell (870) 295-6564 (Fax) moses.jackson@arkansas.gov

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From: Thomas Burns (DOC) <<u>Thomas.Burns@arkansas.gov</u>>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2023 8:18 AM
To: Moses Jackson (DOC) <<u>Moses.Jackson@arkansas.gov</u>>
Cc: Geneva Jones (DOC) <<u>Geneva.Jones@arkansas.gov</u>>; Tyrone Allison (DOC) <<u>Tyrone.Allison@arkansas.gov</u>>; ASCC
Pleadings <<u>ASCCPleadings@arkansas.gov</u>>; Mika Tucker <<u>Mika.Tucker@arkansas.gov</u>>
Subject: Claims Commission Hearing 9/22/2023

The following inmates have hearing beginning at 9am on Friday. Please have online and ready by 9am. I have attached the notices and zoom instructions (all the zoom will be the same.)



Thank you, -TB



THOMAS BURNS FUT CIVELA CONTRACT FUT CONTRACTOR Arkane-Department of Convetiens 1944 Praneton Plac Par Plat, Arkane-Tabli Plana, play 20 and (stinger (sting 20 a)/3 at a) (sting 4 keyster (stinger)

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From:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Sent:	Monday, September 18, 2023 8:57 AM
То:	Todd Ball (DOC)
Cc:	Tomeka Caldwell (DOC); Antonio Johnson (DOC); ASCC Pleadings; Mika Tucker
Subject:	Claims Commission Hearing 9/22/2023
Attachments:	Todd v. ADC 221393 hearing ltr.pdf

The following inmate has hearing beginning at 9am on Friday. Please have online and ready by 9am. I have attached the notices and zoom instructions (all the zoom will be the same.)

Michael Todd (

Thank you, -TB



THEOMAS BUILTNS PERCENCIPALIAL CONTROL FROM PERCENT Arkanse-Department of Convertines. 1944 Disarction File Part Blaff, Arkanse-Tabili Photo, 1950 207 4984 (plinot) (plin 20740/75 free) (plin 24 Arritin (Crift) Homas Burrough, area, per

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From:	Misty Scott on behalf of ASCC Pleadings
Sent:	Monday, October 23, 2023 3:58 PM
То:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Cc:	ASCC Pleadings; Mika Tucker
Subject:	ORDER: Michael Todd v. ADC, Claim No. 221393
Attachments:	Michael Todd v. ADC4.pdf; Michael Todd-Order3.pdf

Thomas:

Please see attached. Contact Mika Tucker with any questions.

Thank you,

Místy

Misty Scott Arkansas State Claims Commission

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

(501) 682-1619 FAX (501) 682-2823



KATHRYN IRBY DIRECTOR

101 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE SUITE 410 LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-3823

October 23, 2023

Mr. Michael Todd (ADC

Mr. Thomas Burns Arkansas Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71602-9411 (via email)

Re: *Michael Todd v. Arkansas Division of Correction* Claim No. 221393

Dear Mr. Todd and Mr. Burns:

Enclosed please find an Order entered on October 20, 2023, by the Arkansas State Claims Commission. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Mika Tucker

ES: msscott

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD (ADC)

CLAIMANT

RESPONDENT

V.

CLAIM NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DIVISION OF CORRECTION

<u>ORDER</u>

Now before the Arkansas State Claims Commission (the "Commission") is the claim filed by Michael Todd (the "Claimant") against the Arkansas Division of Correction (the "Respondent"). At the hearing on September 22, 2023, Claimant proceeded *pro se*, and Thomas Burns appeared on behalf of Respondent. Based upon a review of the testimony and evidence presented, as well as the arguments of the parties and the law of the State of Arkansas, the Commission hereby finds as follows:

1. Claimant filed his claim on May 20, 2022, seeking \$50,000.00 in damages. Claimant alleges he was stabbed in his face, arms, stomach and head when Respondent breached security.

2. Respondent denied liability.

3. Respondent filed a motion to dismiss, which was denied on August 29, 2022.

4. Respondent then filed a motion to deem admitted, which was denied on February9, 2023.

5. On March 7, 2023, Claimant filed a notice that discovery was complete and requested that the claim be set for hearing.

6. On April 24, 2023, Respondent filed a motion for protective order.

7. Claimant filed a motion to subpoen documents on August 21, 2023.

8. At the hearing, Claimant testified that, on the night of the incident "at about 3:22," he was "jumped and stabbed" in his sleep. Claimant testified that only one person was "on the

door," that the camera and security lights were covered up and that Respondent's employee had not made any rounds. Claimant testified that he made it to the infirmary and was sent to the hospital, and that was all he remembered. Claimant testified that Respondent's failure to follow policy and procedure caused the incident. Claimant testified that it was not his fault that Respondent was "short on security."

9. On cross-examination, Claimant testified that he was not smoking synthetic marijuana the day of the incident. Claimant testified that he did not refuse to take a drug test. Claimant testified that he thought he had to pay "something like" three dollars for medical co-pay for t. Claimant testified that he guessed Respondent paid for anything else related to his treatment. Claimant testified that he did not have an enemy alert for "Gould, Rutherford or Daniels" and he was not friends with these individuals.

10. Upon a question from a commissioner, Claimant testified that he was "covered up" and had a blanket over his head when something hit him in the head and that he was stabbed in his eye. Claimant testified that Claimant testified that Claimant testified that he also had stab wounds in his head and stomach, which he called "big puncture holes." Upon a question from a commissioner, Claimant testified that

Upon a question from a commissioner, Claimant testified that

. Upon a question from a commissioner, Claimant testified that he did not think Respondent could tell who "did this to" him because the security lights were covered up. Claimant testified that he thought the barracks were "just black."

11. Respondent then called Lt. Kevin Harris as a witness. Lt. Harris testified that he was not involved with the incident until he saw Claimant in the hallway and that he then followed up with medical care. Lt. Harris testified that he did part of the investigation after the incident. Lt. Harris testified that he did not know if Claimant refused a drug test and had not "seen anything on

that." Lt. Harris testified that he had seen that the "other guys" had refused drug tests. Lt. Harris testified that Claimant was sent to **and was sent** and was sent back to the unit. Lt. Harris testified that "everybody but" Claimant received disciplinaries. Lt. Harris testified that the barracks were short-staffed at the time but there were officers "on the doors." Lt. Harris testified that, without an enemy alert, Respondent does not know that "anyone is going to do anything." Lt. Harris testified that Respondent employees "follow policy and procedure to make sure everyone is going to be okay." Lt. Harris testified that he was the lieutenant on shift making sure everyone was doing their job.

12. Claimant then questioned Lt. Harris. Lt. Harris testified that only one woman was "on the door" that night. Lt. Harris testified that the "barracks were visible" and that the officer could have seen "the commotion" if she were looking directly at it when it happens. Lt. Harris testified that Respondent does "shakedowns from time to time."

13. Respondent then questioned Lt. Harris. Lt. Harris testified that, as far as he knew, "everyone followed policy and procedure" and that he assisted in the investigation.

14. Upon a question from a commissioner, Lt. Harris testified that Claimant was able to be stabbed because inmates get things and hide it from officers. Upon a question from a commissioner, Lt. Harris testified that inmates "traffic and move stuff around." Upon a question from a commissioner asking how Respondent keeps inmates from injuring others, Lt. Harris testified that Claimant was in "open barracks" during the incident and Respondent's employees "do rounds periodically." Lt. Harris testified that there were four other barracks "down there" and Respondent's employees may not have been standing and looking into Claimant's barracks. Lt. Harris testified that, if he remembered correctly, everything happened "pretty quick[ly]." Lt. Harris testified that there were lights in the barracks but that "they" had covered the lights. Lt. Harris testified that inmates cover the lights all the time and that it is an ongoing thing. Upon a question

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from a commissioner, Lt. Harris testified that, even if Respondent had one hundred people on staff, he did not know if they could keep inmates from doing what inmates do.

15. Respondent's counsel then presented a confidential witness statement with the names redacted. Respondent then asked Claimant if the statement was correct. Claimant testified that the statement was not correct because he does not "smoke deuce" and that the person giving the statement had to be lying. Claimant testified that, because he did not take or fail a drug test, the statement was contradicted. Claimant testified that an inmate can either take a drug test when it is presented or receive a disciplinary for not taking it. Claimant testified that he did not know why "the other three inmates" received disciplinaries but that he assumed that it was for the assault. Claimant testified that he was not arguing that Respondent failed to protect him but that he was arguing that Respondent failed to follow policy and procedures. Claimant asked, if Respondent followed policy and procedure, "then why did the camera not show what happened?" Claimant asked, if Respondent followed policy and procedure, then how did the inmates "have blades in the barracks?"

16. Respondent then argued that Claimant's claim was more likely a Section 1983 claim than it is a policy and procedure claim and that the claim should probably be taken up in federal court.

17. At the time of the claim hearing, Respondent's motion for protective order and Claimant's motion to subpoena documents were pending. The Commission notes that Respondent's motion for protective order relates to discovery requests sent by Claimant in October 2022. The Commission DENIES Respondent's motion for protective order as moot given Claimant's March 7, 2023, notice to the Commission that discovery has been completed. The Commission DENIES Claimant's August 21, 2023, motion to subpoena documents because the motion was untimely pursuant to the deadlines set forth in the Commission's hearing letter.

18. The Commission is not persuaded by Respondent's argument that this claim should be filed in federal court. The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this claim involving negligence related to a single event.

19. The Commission finds that Claimant's testimony was credible and unrefuted. The Commission finds it persuasive that Respondent was short-staffed when the incident occurred, that only one officer was assigned to five barracks and remained "on the door" that evening, and that the lights in the barracks had been covered prior to the incident. The Commission also finds it persuasive that Claimant has lingering issues related to the injuries he sustained during the incident.

20. To establish a claim for negligence, the evidence must show "(1) the existence of a duty on the part of the [respondent] to conform to a specific standard of conduct to protect the [claimant]; (2) breach of that duty by the [respondent]; (3) injury to the [claimant] actually and proximately caused by the [respondent]'s breach; and (4) resulting damages to [claimant]..." *Peregrine Trading, LLC v. Rowe*, 2018 Ark. App. 176, 17, 546 S.W.3d 518, 529 (2018). For the reasons set forth above, the Commission finds that Respondent was negligent. As such, the Commission AWARDS Claimant \$7,503.00, which represents damages for pain and suffering as well as the cost of Claimant's co-pay for his medical treatment after the incident. The Commission directs the Commission clerk to issue a voucher in payment thereof.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

(or Band

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Courtney Baird

and Migurin

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Paul Morris, Chair

filte 1. hat

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Sylvester Smith

DATE: October 20, 2023

Notice(s) which may apply to your claim

- (1) A party has forty (40) days from the date of this Order to file a Motion for Reconsideration or a Notice of Appeal with the Claims Commission. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(1). If a Motion for Reconsideration is denied, that party then has twenty (20) days from the date of the denial of the Motion for Reconsideration to file a Notice of Appeal with the Claims Commission. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(1)(B)(ii). A decision of the Claims Commission may only be appealed to the General Assembly. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(3).
- (2) If a Claimant is awarded less than \$15,000.00 by the Claims Commission at hearing, that claim is held forty (40) days from the date of disposition before payment will be processed. *See* Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a). <u>Note</u>: This does not apply to agency admissions of liability and negotiated settlement agreements.
- (3) Awards or negotiated settlement agreements of \$15,000.00 or more are referred to the General Assembly for approval and authorization to pay. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-215(b).

From:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Sent:	Monday, November 27, 2023 2:29 PM
То:	ASCC Pleadings
Subject:	Michael Todd v ADC 221393
Attachments:	1903_001.pdf

Motion Reconsideration

Thank you, -TB



THEOMAS BUILDS FUTURE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE CONTENT OF CONTENT OF

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BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD

CLAIMANT

V

NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS RESPONDENT DIVISION OF CORRECTION

MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

Comes Now the Respondent, Arkansas Department of Corrections (ADC), by Thomas Burns, and for their Motion for Reconsideration, states:

1. The Commission issued an Order October 20, 2023, awarding the inmate

\$7,503.00 in damages. See attached Ex A

2. The inmate put on absolutely zero (0) evidence, not even a scintilla of damages.

3. In fact, during the inmates case in chief all he said was "Lights were covered up, I made it to the hallway, was sent to the hospital, that's all I remember". He was then asked by the Chair if there was anything else that he wanted the Commission to know about. The inmate replied with "Failure to follow procedure caused the incident and it was not my fault they were short on security and all that there".

4. The Chair then moved to the ADC and the ADC crossed the inmate about smoking "duce" and other things. Never did the ADC mention the inmate's injuries or effects of the injuries. At the end of the questioning the Chair asked if any Commissioners had any questions. A Commissioner then asked the inmate "tell us more about your injuries" "what was your recovery like", and "what are the lingering effects of this" The are inappropriate for a Commissioner to ask as developing damages is the inmates burden. A Commissioner should ask neutral question to elicit clarifying

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information. Not direct questions to prove damages. Also, this is beyond the scope of the ADC's cross.

5. The party claiming damages has the burden of proving those damages beyond speculation. *Minerva Enterprises v. Howlett, 308 Ark. 291, 824 S.W. 2d 377* (1992). Regarding proof of damages, the burden of proof is on the party claiming damages, and such proof must consist of facts, not speculation. *Marine Servs. Unlimited, Inc. v. Rakes, 323 Ark. 757, 918 S.W.2d 132 (1996).*

6. The amount of damages a plaintiff is entitled to is a question of fact. *Quality Truck Equipment Co. v. Layman, 51 Ark. App. 195, 912 S.W.2d 18 (1995).* The burden of proof regarding damages is on the party claiming them. *Grand State Mktg. v. Eastern Poultry Distrib., Inc., 63 Ark. App. 123, 975 S.W.2d 439 (1998).* Exactness of proof of damages is not required and if it is reasonably certain that some loss occurred, it is enough that damages can be stated only approximately. *Morton v. Park View Apartments,* 315 Ark. 400, 868 S.W.2d 448 (1993); *Employers Ins. of Wausau v. Didion Mid-South Corp., 65 Ark. App. 201, 987 S.W.2d 745 (1999).* However, a plaintiff's proof of damages must be certain enough to allow findings from established facts, not from speculation or conjecture. *Riffle v. United Gen. Title Ins. Co., supra.*

7. The inmate's complaint sought \$50,000.00 in damages. The inmate offers no proof of this amount and offered no proof of this amount during the hearing.

8. The inmate testified that he paid a \$3.00 co-pay that they took out of his account. He then testified that the ADC paid for his medical care.

9. The inmate stated he did not have any enemy alerts on file. The Claims Commission has ruled: "The Claims Commission agrees with Respondent that dismissal

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is proper under *Hodges*. Even liberally construing the complaint, Claimant has not stated how Respondent breached its duty. <u>The mere fact that Claimant was attacked does not</u> <u>automatically mean that Respondent violated its duty to protect Claimant. The Claims</u> <u>Commission agrees with Respondent that if it is unaware of a dispute between inmates or</u> <u>groups of inmates, it cannot institute protocols to protect those inmates from each other.</u> Claimant has stated no facts regarding Respondent's knowledge of a threat to Claimant from his attacker. The mere fact that Claimant's attacker had an incident of violence with another inmate does not put Respondent on notice that Claimant's attacker is a potential threat to every other inmate in Respondent's units. *Corey Steward v ADC Claim 180915* (2018)"

10. Lt. Harris stated that everyone followed policy and procedure.

11. The inmate has no lingering effects of this incident. See attached $Ex B^{I}$

12. The Inmate here alleged Staff shortages exactly like the claim in Muniz. "Muniz, was beaten unconscious by other prisoners after a guard locked him in a dormitory. The prisoner argued that the prison officials were negligent in failing to provide enough guards to prevent the assault. The court said that this type of claim is appropriate under the FTCA *United States v. Muniz*, *374 U.S. 150 (1963)*". This claim is clearly one for the Federal Courts and not the Arkansas State Claims Commission.

13. An assault on an inmate by a fellow prisoner has been held to constitute cruel and unusual punishment. The underlying rationale is that prison officials have a duty to protect the inmates from such assaults and failure to do so makes the conditions of confinement so intolerable that it constitutes cruel and unusual punishment. *See, e.g.*,

¹ Health Policy 1166.00 Inmates are not allowed to have copies of their medical records. If an inmate wants to review his or her records they can make a inmate request to the Warden to review their personal records.

Little v. Walker, 552 F.2d 193 (7th Cir. 1977), cert. denied, 46 U.S.L.W. 3586 (U.S. Mar. 21, 1978) (77-121); Woodhous v. Virginia, 487 F.2d 889 (4th Cir. 1973); Roberts v. Williams, 456 F.2d 819 (5th Cir. 1972); Holt v. Sarver, 442 F.2d 304 (8th Cir. 1971); Coffin v. Reichard, 143 F.2d 443 (6th Cir. 1944); Fore v. Godwin, 407 F. Supp. 1145 (E.D. Va. 1976); Penn v. Oliver, 351 F. Supp. 1292 (E.D. Va. 1972).

15. The Commission finds it persuasive that the ADC was short staffed, this again leads to a Section 1983 issue. *Id*

16. While the Commission finds the inmate has lingering issues, the inmate put on zero evidence of that, and records show that he does not have lingering effects. *Id*

17. While the Commission tries to make this a negligence claim it clearly is not. The Commission need only look to its previous ruling in *Steward* to see this Commission lacks jurisdiction.

18. Given an inmate's own inability to anticipate a surprise attack by another prisoner which injured him, and his decision not to report his altercation with that prisoner the previous afternoon, his claim that prison employees failed to protect him from a specific threat posed by the other prisoner failed. Even assuming that the plaintiff satisfied the objective component of his failure-to-protect claim, the record was devoid of evidence suggesting that any of defendants were subjectively aware of, or deliberately indifferent to, a substantial risk of harm to inmate safety. *Patterson v. Kelley, #16-3891, 2018 U.S. App. Lexis 25131 (8th Cir.).*

19. The inmate stated in his complaint and the hearing that no one from the ADC wrongfully or offensively touched him during the altercation. Instead, he contents

the ADC failed to prevent this attack by being short staffed, that therefore, should be a claim he can pursue under Section 1983.

20. Arkansas State Claims Commission Rule 7.1 Motions for Reconsideration "will only be entertained if they set forth new or additional evidence which was not previously available."

21. This motion puts forth new and additional evidence the was not available at the hearing.

22. The Commission should reverse the ruling, dismiss the complaint.

WHEREFORE, the Respondent prays that the Commission reconsider the order of October 20, 2023; that this Commission set aside the award of damages for lack of evidence; for their attorney fees and costs; and for all other just and proper relief to which they may be entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Burns (02006) Legal Department Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, AR 71602 (870) 267-6845 Office (870) 267-6373 Facsimile thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the above pleading has been served this 27th day of October 2023, on the below Claimant by placing a copy of the same in the U. S. Mail, regular postage to:

Michael Todd (

Thomas Burns

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD (ADC

CLAIM NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DIVISION OF CORRECTION

V.

RESPONDENT

CLAIMANT

<u>ORDER</u>

Now before the Arkansas State Claims Commission (the "Commission") is the claim filed by Michael Todd (the "Claimant") against the Arkansas Division of Correction (the "Respondent"). At the hearing on September 22, 2023, Claimant proceeded *pro se*, and Thomas Burns appeared on behalf of Respondent. Based upon a review of the testimony and evidence presented, as well as the arguments of the parties and the law of the State of Arkansas, the Commission hereby finds as follows:

1. Claimant filed his claim on May 20, 2022, seeking \$50,000.00 in damages. Claimant alleges he was stabbed in his face, arms, stomach and head when Respondent breached security.

2. Respondent denied liability.

3. Respondent filed a motion to dismiss, which was denied on August 29, 2022.

4. Respondent then filed a motion to deem admitted, which was denied on February

9, 2023.

5. On March 7, 2023, Claimant filed a notice that discovery was complete and requested that the claim be set for hearing.

6. On April 24, 2023, Respondent filed a motion for protective order.

7. Claimant filed a motion to subpoen documents on August 21, 2023.

8. At the hearing, Claimant testified that, on the night of the incident "at about 3:22," he was "jumped and stabbed" in his sleep. Claimant testified that only one person was "on the

door," that the camera and security lights were covered up and that Respondent's employee had not made any rounds. Claimant testified that he made it to the infirmary and was sent to the hospital, and that was all he remembered. Claimant testified that Respondent's failure to follow policy and procedure caused the incident. Claimant testified that it was not his fault that Respondent was "short on security."

9. On cross-examination, Claimant testified that he was not smoking synthetic marijuana the day of the incident. Claimant testified that he did not refuse to take a drug test. Claimant testified that he thought he had to pay "something like" three dollars for the for his treatment related to the incident. Claimant testified that he guessed Respondent paid for anything else related to his treatment. Claimant testified that he did not have an enemy alert for "Gould, Rutherford or Daniels" and he was not friends with these individuals.

10. Upon a question from a commissioner, Claimant testified that he was "covered up" and had a blanket over his head when something hit him in the head and that he was stabbed in his eye. Claimant testified that Claimant testified that he also had stab wounds in his head and stomach, which he Upon a question from a commissioner, Claimant testified that he ha

to the stretched, **Sector** Upon a question from a commissioner, Claimant testified that when he yawned or stretched, **Sector** Upon a question from a commissioner, Claimant testified that he did not think Respondent could tell who "did this to" him because the security lights were covered up. Claimant testified that he thought the barracks were "just black."

11. Respondent then called Lt. Kevin Harris as a witness. Lt. Harris testified that he was not involved with the incident until he saw Claimant in the hallway and that he then followed up with **Example 1** Lt. Harris testified that he did part of the investigation after the incident. Lt. Harris testified that he did not know if Claimant refused a drug test and had not "seen anything on

that." Lt. Harris testified that he had seen that the "other guys" had refused drug tests. Lt. Harris testified that Claimant was sent to the unit. Lt. Harris testified that "everybody but" Claimant received disciplinaries. Lt. Harris testified that the barracks were short-staffed at the time but there were officers "on the doors." Lt. Harris testified that, without an enemy alert, Respondent does not know that "anyone is going to do anything." Lt. Harris testified that Respondent employees "follow policy and procedure to make sure everyone is going to be okay." Lt. Harris testified that he was the lieutenant on shift making sure everyone was doing their job.

12. Claimant then questioned Lt. Harris. Lt. Harris testified that only one woman was "on the door" that night. Lt. Harris testified that the "barracks were visible" and that the officer could have seen "the commotion" if she were looking directly at it when it happens. Lt. Harris testified that Respondent does "shakedowns from time to time."

13. Respondent then questioned Lt. Harris. Lt. Harris testified that, as far as he knew, "everyone followed policy and procedure" and that he assisted in the investigation.

14. Upon a question from a commissioner, Lt. Harris testified that Claimant was able to be stabbed because inmates get things and hide it from officers. Upon a question from a commissioner, Lt. Harris testified that inmates "traffic and move stuff around." Upon a question from a commissioner asking how Respondent keeps inmates from injuring others, Lt. Harris testified that Claimant was in "open barracks" during the incident and Respondent's employees "do rounds periodically." Lt. Harris testified that there were four other barracks "down there" and Respondent's employees may not have been standing and looking into Claimant's barracks. Lt. Harris testified that, if he remembered correctly, everything happened "pretty quick[ly]." Lt. Harris testified that there were lights in the barracks but that "they" had covered the lights. Lt. Harris testified that inmates cover the lights all the time and that it is an ongoing thing. Upon a question from a commissioner, Lt. Harris testified that, even if Respondent had one hundred people on staff, he did not know if they could keep inmates from doing what inmates do.

15. Respondent's counsel then presented a confidential witness statement with the names redacted. Respondent then asked Claimant if the statement was correct. Claimant testified that the statement was not correct because he does not "smoke deuce" and that the person giving the statement had to be lying. Claimant testified that, because he did not take or fail a drug test, the statement was contradicted. Claimant testified that an inmate can either take a drug test when it is presented or receive a disciplinary for not taking it. Claimant testified that he did not know why "the other three inmates" received disciplinaries but that he assumed that it was for the assault. Claimant testified that he was not arguing that Respondent failed to protect him but that he was arguing that Respondent failed to follow policy and procedures. Claimant asked, if Respondent followed policy and procedure, "then why did the camera not show what happened?" Claimant asked, if Respondent followed policy and procedure, then how did the inmates "have blades in the barracks?"

16. Respondent then argued that Claimant's claim was more likely a Section 1983 claim than it is a policy and procedure claim and that the claim should probably be taken up in federal court.

17. At the time of the claim hearing, Respondent's motion for protective order and Claimant's motion to subpoena documents were pending. The Commission notes that Respondent's motion for protective order relates to discovery requests sent by Claimant in October 2022. The Commission DENIES Respondent's motion for protective order as moot given Claimant's March 7, 2023, notice to the Commission that discovery has been completed. The Commission DENIES Claimant's August 21, 2023, motion to subpoena documents because the motion was untimely pursuant to the deadlines set forth in the Commission's hearing letter.

⁴

18. The Commission is not persuaded by Respondent's argument that this claim should be filed in federal court. The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this claim involving negligence related to a single event.

19. The Commission finds that Claimant's testimony was credible and unrefuted. The Commission finds it persuasive that Respondent was short-staffed when the incident occurred, that only one officer was assigned to five barracks and remained "on the door" that evening, and that the lights in the barracks had been covered prior to the incident. The Commission also finds it persuasive that Claimant has lingering issues related to the injuries he sustained during the incident.

20. To establish a claim for negligence, the evidence must show "(1) the existence of a duty on the part of the [respondent] to conform to a specific standard of conduct to protect the [claimant]; (2) breach of that duty by the [respondent]; (3) injury to the [claimant] actually and proximately caused by the [respondent]'s breach; and (4) resulting damages to [claimant]..." *Peregrine Trading, LLC v. Rowe*, 2018 Ark. App. 176, 17, 546 S.W.3d 518, 529 (2018). For the reasons set forth above, the Commission finds that Respondent was negligent. As such, the Commission AWARDS Claimant \$7,503.00, which represents damages for pain and suffering as well as the cost of Claimant's co-pay for his medical treatment after the incident. The Commission directs the Commission clerk to issue a voucher in payment thereof.

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IT IS SO ORDERED.

our Band

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Courtney Baird

Paul Minin

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Paul Morris, Chair

filter 1. hot

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Sylvester Smith

DATE: October 20, 2023

Notice(s) which may apply to your claim

- (1) A party has forty (40) days from the date of this Order to file a Motion for Reconsideration or a Notice of Appeal with the Claims Commission. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(1). If a Motion for Reconsideration is denied, that party then has twenty (20) days from the date of the denial of the Motion for Reconsideration to file a Notice of Appeal with the Claims Commission. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(1)(B)(ii). A decision of the Claims Commission may only be appealed to the General Assembly. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(3).
- (2) If a Claimant is awarded less than \$15,000.00 by the Claims Commission at hearing, that claim is held forty (40) days from the date of disposition before payment will be processed. *See* Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a). <u>Note</u>: This does not apply to agency admissions of liability and negotiated settlement agreements.
- (3) Awards or negotiated settlement agreements of \$15,000.00 or more are referred to the General Assembly for approval and authorization to pay. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-215(b).

From:	Mika Tucker
Sent:	Monday, December 18, 2023 9:00 AM
То:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Subject:	HEARING SCHEDULED: Michael Todd v. ADC, Claim No. 221393
Attachments:	Todd v. ADC, 221393 hearing letter (motions).pdf

Hi, Thomas. Please see the attached correspondence.

Thank you, Mika

Mika Tucker Arkansas State Claims Commission 101 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 410 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 (501) 682-2818

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

(501) 682-1619 FAX (501) 682-2823



KATHRYN IRBY DIRECTOR

101 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE SUITE 410 LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-3823

December 18, 2023

Mr. Michael Todd (ADC 0

Mr. Thomas Burns Arkansas Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71602-9411

(via email)

RE: *Michael Todd v. Arkansas Division of Correction* Claim No. 221393

Dear Mr. Todd and Mr. Burns,

The Claims Commission has scheduled a hearing on any pending motions for **Thursday**, **January 18, 2024**, beginning at 8:45 a.m. All parties will attend via Zoom. The Zoom invitation is enclosed.

As this is a motions hearing, no prehearing materials are requested.

Sincerely,

Mika Tucker

ES: mtucker

Kathryn Irby -- Claims Commission is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: Claims Commission -- hearings Time: Jan 18, 2024 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87348644534?pwd=UnAvWmlBVVA4VnNuMVB6WFpuclRodz09

Meeting ID: 873 4864 4534 Passcode: BZ1fnd

One tap mobile +16469313860,,87348644534#,,,,*299333# US +19294362866,,87348644534#,,,,*299333# US (New York)

Dial by your location

- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 386 347 5053 US
- +1 507 473 4847 US
- +1 564 217 2000 US
- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 689 278 1000 US
- +1 719 359 4580 US
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 873 4864 4534 Passcode: 299333

Find your local number: https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kdJNKs5RvA

From:	Mika Tucker
Sent:	Tuesday, January 16, 2024 9:45 AM
То:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Cc:	Kathryn Irby
Subject:	HEARING REMOVED: Todd v. ADC, Claim No. 221393
Attachments:	CORR Todd v. ADC 221393.pdf

Hi, Thomas. Please see the attached correspondence. Thank you. -Mika

Mika Tucker Arkansas State Claims Commission 101 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 410

Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 (501) 682-2818

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

(501) 682-1619 FAX (501) 682-2823



KATHRYN IRBY DIRECTOR

101 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE SUITE 410 LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-3823

January 16, 2024

Mr. Michael Todd (ADC

Mr. Thomas Burns Arkansas Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71602-9411 (via email)

Re: *Michael Todd v. Arkansas Division of Correction* Claim No. 221393

Dear Mr. Todd and Mr. Burns,

The Claims Commission has removed the motion hearing in above-referenced claim from the docket. The Claims Commission will review the pending motion and enter an order soon.

Our office asks the ADC to please hand-deliver a copy of this letter to Mr. Todd as soon as possible so that he will be aware of the removal of the hearing prior to January 18, 2024.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Mika Tucker

ES: mtucker

From:	Misty Scott on behalf of ASCC Pleadings
Sent:	Monday, January 22, 2024 1:25 PM
То:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Cc:	Mika Tucker; ASCC Pleadings
Subject:	ORDER: Michael Todd v. ADC, Claim No. 221393
Attachments:	Michael Todd v. ADC.pdf; Michael Todd-order4.pdf

Thomas:

Please see attached. Contact Mika Tucker with any questions.

Thank you,

Místy

Misty Scott Arkansas State Claims Commission

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

(501) 682-1619 FAX (501) 682-2823



KATHRYN IRBY DIRECTOR

101 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE SUITE 410 LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201-3823

January 22, 2024

Mr. Michael Todd (ADC

Re: *Michael Todd v. Arkansas Division of Correction* Claim No. 221393

Dear Mr. Todd:

Enclosed please find an Order entered on January 18, 2024, by the Arkansas State Claims Commission. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Mika Tucker

ES: msscott

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD (ADC

CLAIMANT

V.

CLAIM NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DIVISION OF CORRECTION

RESPONDENT

ORDER ON RESPONDENT'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

Now before the Arkansas State Claims Commission (the "Commission") is a motion filed by the Arkansas Division of Correction (the "Respondent") for reconsideration of the Commission's October 20, 2023, order awarding Michael Todd (the "Claimant") \$7,503.00 in damages. Based upon a review of the claim file, including Respondent's motion, and the law of the State of Arkansas, the Commission hereby finds as follows:

1. Claimant filed his claim on May 20, 2022, seeking \$50,000.00 in damages. Claimant alleges he was stabbed in his face, arms, stomach, and head when Respondent breached security.

2. Respondent denied liability. Respondent also filed a motion to dismiss, which was denied by the Commission on August 29, 2022.

3. Following a hearing on September 22, 2023, the Commission entered an order awarding Claimant \$7,503.00, which represented damages for pain and suffering as well as the cost of Claimant's co-pay for his medical treatment after the incident.¹

4. Respondent subsequently filed the instant motion for reconsideration, arguing that it was submitting new and additional evidence not available at the hearing.

¹The order also denied a motion for protective order filed by Respondent as moot and denied a motion to subpoena documents filed by Claimant.

5. Claimant did not respond to Respondent's motion.

6. In analyzing a motion for reconsideration, Rule 7.1 of the Commission Rules and Regulations states that motions for reconsideration "will only be entertained if they set forth new or additional evidence which was not [previously] available"

7. The Commission finds that Respondent's motion does not set forth new or additional evidence not previously available. The Commission specifically notes the following:

- a. As to Respondent's argument that Claimant failed to present evidence, the Commission finds this argument to be entirely incorrect. Testimony *is* evidence, and in the October 20, 2023, order, the Commission found Claimant's testimony to be both credible and unrefuted. *See* Order at ¶ 19.
- b. As to Respondent's argument that it was "inappropriate" for a commissioner to ask questions related to Claimant's damages, the Commission finds this argument to be incorrect and directly contrary to the Commission's Rules, which recognize that the Commission is "a fact-finding body for the General Assembly" and which specifically allow "the Commission members . . . [to] question . . . [a] witness to ascertain *any* points or facts." *See* Commission Rules at Rule 4.1, 4.4. (emphasis added). The Commission also notes that Respondent did not cite to any authority in support of its argument.
- c. As to Respondent's argument regarding the lack of an enemy alert between Claimant and Claimant's attackers, the Commission finds this argument to be unpersuasive. Respondent can still be found liable for negligence in the absence of an enemy alert. Moreover, the Commission is confident that Respondent's

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employees are expected to be alert at all times, even in the absence of notification of a conflict between inmates.

- d. As to Respondent's argument that this is a federal law claim, the Commission finds this argument unpersuasive as the Commission addressed this argument in its order. See Order at ¶¶16 and 18.
- e. As to Respondent's argument that Claimant did not provide "proof" as to the amount of claimed damages, the Commission finds this argument to be unpersuasive. Given the credible testimony from Claimant at the hearing regarding his pain and suffering, as well the cost of his medical co-pay, the Commission determined that \$7,503.00 was an appropriate award. *See* Order at ¶ 20.

As such, Respondent's motion for reconsideration is DENIED, and the October 20,
 2023, Commission order remains in effect.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Servy C. Kinslow

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Henry Kinslow

Paul Morrin

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Paul Morris, Chair

filte I both

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Sylvester Smith

DATE: January 18, 2024

Notice(s) which may apply to your claim

- (1) A party has forty (40) days from the date of this Order to file a Motion for Reconsideration or a Notice of Appeal with the Claims Commission. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(1). If a Motion for Reconsideration is denied, that party then has twenty (20) days from the date of the denial of the Motion for Reconsideration to file a Notice of Appeal with the Claims Commission. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(1)(B)(ii). A decision of the Claims Commission may only be appealed to the General Assembly. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(3).
- (2) If a Claimant is awarded less than \$15,000.00 by the Claims Commission at hearing, that claim is held forty (40) days from the date of disposition before payment will be processed. *See* Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a). <u>Note</u>: This does not apply to agency admissions of liability and negotiated settlement agreements.
- (3) Awards or negotiated settlement agreements of \$15,000.00 or more are referred to the General Assembly for approval and authorization to pay. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-215(b).

From:	Thomas Burns (DOC)
Sent:	Friday, February 2, 2024 9:52 AM
То:	ASCC Pleadings
Subject:	Michael Todd v ADC 221393
Attachments:	2682_001.pdf

Notice of Appeal to Claims Subcommittee

Thank you, -TB



THOMAS BURNS PEPUSAINERAL CONSIST. PER-ENACEMENTIAN Arkanas-Department of Consection. 1946 Dumotes: Plac Pare Ball, Arkanas-Tienti Planta, pS0 207-0051 (cdino) (cdin 14 Arctin (Col)) (cdin 14 Arctin (Col)) (Forma, Barto-Lakanas-gov

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BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

MICHAEL TODD (

CLAIMANT

V.

NO. 221393

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS RESPONDENT DIVISION OF CORRECTION

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Comes now the Respondent, Division of Correction (ADC) by and through

counsel, Thomas Burns, and for notice, states:

1. That notice is hereby given that the ADC appeals from the Order of the

Arkansas State Claims Commission (ASCC) made on the 18TH January 2024.

2. This appeal is taken to the Claims Subcommittee of the Joint Budget

Committee, and the ADC hereby requests and directs that the ASCC files all documents

pertaining to this case with the Claims Subcommittee.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Burns (02006) Legal Division Division of Correction 6814 Princeton Pike Pine Bluff, AR 71602 (870) 267-6845 Office thomas.burns@arkansas.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the above pleading has been served this 2nd day of February 2024, on the below Claimant by placing a copy of the same in the U. S. Mail, regular postage to:

Michael Todd

Thomas Burns