

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS  
JONESBORO DIVISION

ASHLEY SUTFIN

PLAINTIFF

vs.

3:07CV00124-WRW

RICKY D. DUHON, et al

DEFENDANTS

ORDER DISMISSING ACTION  
BY REASON OF SETTLEMENT

Counsel have advised the Court that the parties settled the matter and request the case be dismissed. The Supreme Court has held that district courts do not have inherent power, that is, automatic ancillary jurisdiction, to enforce settlement agreements. Ancillary jurisdiction to enforce a settlement agreement exists "only if the parties' obligation to comply with the terms of the settlement agreement is made part of the order of dismissal--either by a provision 'retaining jurisdiction' over the settlement agreement or by incorporation of the terms of the settlement agreement in the order."<sup>1</sup> It is the obligation of the parties requesting dismissal to comply with the terms of the settlement and this Court specifically retains jurisdiction to enforce the terms of the settlement agreement forming the underpinning of this dismissal.

IT IS ORDERED that the complaint, be, and it hereby is, dismissed with prejudice, subject to the terms of the Settlement Agreement, and/or Consent Decree. If any party desires that the written settlement agreement be part of the record herein, it should be filed with the Court within twenty (20) days.

---

<sup>1</sup> *Kokkonon v Guardian Life Insurance Co. of America*, 511 U.S. 375, 114 S.Ct. 1673, 1676-77 (1994); *Meiner v Missouri Dept. of Mental Health*, 62 F.3d 1126, 1127(8th Cir. 1995)

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk forthwith serve copies of this Order upon the attorneys for the parties appearing in this action.

Dated this 10th day of July, 2009.

/s/ Wm. R. Wilson, Jr.  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

settle.