IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

AUGUSTA DIVISION

| JOHN TREVOR TURNER, |) |
|---|-----------------------|
| Plaintiff, |)) |
| V. |) CV 124-170 |
| STATE OF GEORGIA; RICHMOND COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.; and DEVIN CAMANCHO, |))) |
| Defendants. |) |
| JOHN TREVOR TURNER, |) |
| Plaintiff, |) |
| v. |)) CV 124-191 |
| STATE OF GEORGIA; DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS; RICHMOND COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.; DEVIN CAMANCHO; CHRISTOPHER BROWN; JERIMIAH WELCH; and SPECTRUM HEALTH SYSTEMS, Paulding County RSAT Center, |))))) |
| Defendants. |) |

O R D E R

On September 25, 2024, the Clerk of Court opened a purported civil rights case in Plaintiff's name based on the events surrounding Plaintiff's October 2022 arrest by Officer Camancho for possession of methamphetamine and his resultant incarceration for a probation violation, even though the methamphetamine possession charge was later dismissed. <u>See</u> <u>Turner v. State of Georgia</u>, CV 124-170, doc. no. 1 (S.D. Ga. Sept. 25, 2024) (hereinafter "CV 124-170"). Because it was unclear whether Plaintiff is attempting to assert a claim pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 or is attempting to petition for habeas corpus relief pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254, on October 9, 2024, the Court provided Plaintiff an appropriate form civil rights complaint used by incarcerated litigants in the Southern District of Georgia and a form habeas corpus petition and directed him to return whichever form matched the relief sought within fourteen days. (<u>See id.</u>, doc. no. 3.)

On October 22, 2024, Plaintiff returned the civil rights form, along with an attachment which appears to be a copy of a civil action filed in the Superior Court of Richmond County, but instead of docketing the filing in CV 124-170 as an amended complaint, the Clerk of Court opened a new case in Plaintiff's name. <u>See Turner v. State of Georgia</u>, CV 124-191, doc. no. 1 (S.D. Ga. Oct. 22, 2024) (hereinafter "CV 124-091"). Plaintiff's new pleading again describes issues related to his 2022 arrest by Officer Camancho for possession of methamphetamine and his resultant incarceration; the caption lists the same Defendants in the original complaint, and adds four new parties. (<u>See id.</u>)

Upon examination of the pleadings in both cases, and in consideration of the instructions provided by the Court on October 9th in CV 124-170, it appears the Clerk of Court mistakenly opened CV 124-191 rather than docketing Plaintiff's amended pleading in CV 124-170. To correct this administrative error resulting in two pending cases based on the same claims, the Court **DIRECTS** the **CLERK** to file the complaint from CV 124-191 as an amended complaint in CV 124-170 and close CV 124-191. The motion to proceed IFP in CV 124-191 is **MOOT** because Plaintiff already has a motion to proceed IFP pending in

CV 124-170 at docket entry two. Plaintiff's case shall proceed in the normal course of business as CV 124-170, and any future filings shall be captioned and filed under CV 124-170.

SO ORDERED this 23rd day of October, 2024, at Augusta, Georgia.

BRIAN K. EPPS UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA