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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF IDAHO

NATALIE JEAN REIGHARD,

Plaintiff,

VS.

CHIEF WAYNE LONGO, et al.,

Defendants.

NO. CV-09-350-JLQ

ORDER ON PRETRIAL CONFERENCE; DIRECTING DISMISSAL OF CLAIMS AGAINST CERTAIN DEFENDANTS

A telephonic pretrial conference was held on January 23, 2012. Participating on behalf of Plaintiff was Larry Purviance. Randall Adams appeared on behalf of the Defendants. The following Order is intended to memorialize and supplement the oral rulings of the court.

I. Plaintiffs' Remaining Claims

Plaintiff's claims pleaded in "Count I" of the Complaint are brought under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for violation of equal protection and due process. Her second claim for relief ("Count II") was for conspiracy "to depriving persons of equal protection of the laws" brought under 42 U.S.C. § 1985. All of the claims were pleaded against the two municipal Defendants (the City of Coeur d'Alene and the Coeur d'Alene Police Department), four individual Defendants (Longo, Reneau, Brumbaugh, Walther), as well as "John Does 1-10" and "Jane Does 1-10."

Defendants moved for summary judgment on all claims. ECF No. 13. On September 16, 2010, Judge Winmill granted the defense motion as to the Plaintiff's equal protection claim under § 1983, including any claim for statements made at the time the Plaintiff was first stopped. Judge Winmill, however denied summary judgment as to the "due process" claim (which was construed by the court as a claim arising under the Fourth Amendment, as opposed to the Fourteenth Amendment), holding: "there exists a

genuine issue of material fact regarding whether Officer Reneau touched Reighard in an unreasonable manner while conducting the search." ECF No. 23.

Judge Winmill's Order did not address whether the evidence could support municipal liability under § 1983, or Plaintiff's claims of conspiracy claim under 42 U.S.C. § 1985. A review of the defense summary judgment motion and memoranda evidences a complete lack of discussion of the rule of law that there is no *respondeat superior* liability under § 1983 nor did the defense argue that a municipal employer may be held liable under that statute only where the violation was pursuant to a "pattern and practice" of the employer. *Monell v. Dep't. of Soc. Servs.*, 436 U.S. 658 (1978). A review of the summary judgment briefing fails to disclose any evidence that a municipal policy, custom or practice led to any alleged constitutional deprivation herein. Recognizing this lack of evidence, counsel for the Plaintiff, at the pretrial conference, appropriately conceded the lack of evidence against any Defendant other than Jared Reneau. That being the case, since a person cannot conspire with himself, the conspiracy claim must also be dismissed. The only remaining question for trial is whether Officer Reneau exceeded the scope of a permissible pat-down search incident to a lawful arrest under the *Fourth Amendment*.

The following claims are thus conceded and shall be **dismissed** upon entry of final judgment: 1) the claims under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 against Defendants City of Coeur d'Alene, the Coeur d'Alene Police Department, Wayne Longo, Brian Brumbaugh, Jeff Walther; and 2) the claims against all Defendants under 42 U.S.C. § 1985.

The court discussed with counsel the admissibility of the "getting his finger dirty" statement made at the scene of the arrest by one of the officers. The court allowed a motion *in limine* to be filed by the defense and that matter will be ruled upon on February 6, 2012. Having in mind the lack of secretarial help in the office of counsel for the Plaintiff, any brief or citation of authority on this issue by the Plaintiff should be by an ECF filing or if counsel for the Plaintiff has difficulty in such a filing, it may be sent by e-mail to the court and defense counsel. The court's e-mail address is:

ilq_chambers@waed.uscourts.gov.

II. **Trial Procedure**

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A. Trial Schedule. Counsel shall appear on Monday, February 6, 2012 at 8:30 **a.m.** at the U.S. District Court in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho to address any pretrial matters, and when such matters are concluded, to allow counsel to observe the questioning of the prospective jurors in Judge McKibben's case.

Jury selection will begin following the selection of the jury in Judge McKibben's case. Trial will begin immediately after the jury is selected. The court's typical trial hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with a recess for lunch. Counsel shall have witnesses available to ensure a full day of testimony.

- B. **Jury Selection**. The court will conduct the juror *voir dire*, and upon conclusion thereof will ask counsel at side-bar for any further requested questions and challenges for cause. If appropriate, the court will allow limited questions of a prospective juror(s). 14 Eight jurors will be selected using the alternate strike method of jury selection. Each side will be entitled to three (3) peremptory challenges. The waiver of one peremptory challenge does not waive any remaining peremptory challenge(s).
 - C. Contact with the Jury. Counsel will be receiving completed Juror Questionnaires from the court during the week prior to jury selection. The furnishing of these Questionnaires in advance of jury selection is solely to assist counsel in reviewing the Questionnaires and shall not in any manner be used for investigation of the prospective jurors.

Counsel shall advise their clients, witnesses, and those associated with the client and witnesses to avoid all contact with prospective jurors prior to jury selection and thereafter during trial.

D. Jury Instructions. A draft set of jury instructions will be emailed to counsel prior to the start of trial. Counsel shall be prepared to discuss the proposed instructions on the first day of trial or at the pretrial conference on that date.

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E. The court intends to review the proposed expert testimony of defense expert Edward Leach for admissibility. Counsel may address this issue in briefs.

F. Resolution Prior to Trial. The parties shall <u>promptly</u> notify the court if this case is settled. This case is on the court's schedule for a trial certain on February 6, 2012. As this matter will require out of town travel reservations by the court and court staff and the summoning of jurors, the court will plan on this matter definitely going to trial unless otherwise informed no later than **NOON**, on Wednesday, **FEBRUARY 1, 2012**.

IT IS SO ORDERED. The Clerk of the Court is directed to enter this order and forward copies to counsel.

DATED this 24th day of January, 2012.

s/ Justin L. Quackenbush JUSTIN L. QUACKENBUSH SENIOR UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE