Haddad v. Indiana Pacers et al

Doc. 10 Att. 1

Case 2:04-cv-74932-ADT-DAS

Documentiffor MUMBERed 03/16/2005 Page 1 of 9

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ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN SOUTHERN DIVISION

CHARLES HADDAD,

Plaintiff,

VS.

JUDGE: Taylor, Anna Diggs
DECK: S. Division Civil Deck
DATE: 12/20/2004 @ 13:59:30
CASE NUMBER: 2:04CV74932
CMP CHARLES HADDA VS. INDIANA

PACERS, ET AL (SI) JMC

INDIANA PACERS, an assumed name, a/k/a PACERS BASKETBALL CORPORATION, an Indiana corporation, JERMAINE O'NEAL and ANTHONY JOHNSON, Jointly and Severally,

Defendants.

MAGISTRATE JUDGE DONALD A. SCHEER

L.S. CHARFOOS P11799 JASON J. THOMPSON P47184

Charfoos & Christensen, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff 5510 Woodward Avenue Detroit, MI 48202 (313) 875-8080

COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

There is no other pending or resolved civil action arising out of the same transaction or occurrence alleged in this complaint.

L.S. CHARFOOS P 11799 JASON J. THOMPSON p47184 Attorney for Plaintiff

NOW COMES Plaintiff, by and through his attorneys, CHARFOOS &

CHRISTENSEN, P.C., and for her cause of action against the Defendants, jointly and severally, states the following:

The Parties

- 1. Plaintiff Charles Haddad is, and was at all times pertinent, a citizen and resident of Burt, Michigan.
- Defendant Indiana Pacers is an assumed name for Pacers
 Basketball Corporation, an Indiana corporation, with its principal place of business in Indianapolis, Indiana.
- 3. Defendant Jermaine O'Neal is, and was at all times pertinent, a resident of Indianapolis, Indiana.
- 4. Defendant Anthony Johnson is, and was at all times pertinent, a resident of Indianapolis, Indiana.
- 5. On November 19, 2004, Defendants O'Neal and Johnson, as employees and/or agents of Defendant Indiana Pacers, were engaged in professional basketball competition with The Detroit Pistons at the Palace of Auburn Hills, in Auburn Hills, Michigan.

Jurisdiction and Venue

6. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332, as the Plaintiff is a citizen of a different state than Defendants, and the amount in controversy exceeds Seventy-Five Thousand (\$75,000.00) Dollars, exclusive of interest and costs.

Claims for Relief

FACTS

- 7. On Friday, November 19, 2004, Plaintiff, a season ticket holder, was in attendance at the basketball game between the Detroit Pistons and Defendant Indiana Pacers.
- 8. Certain players of the Indiana Pacers, as the game was ending, wrongfully removed themselves from the playing court and entered into the stands where fans were assembled.
 - 9. A brawl of some celebrity ensued.
- 10. The brawl, not having anything to do with the flow of the game, resulted in the games termination.
- 11. During the melee Ron Artest, one of the players, came down on the court, heading toward patrons near the basket.
- 12. One of the patrons was a Mr. Shackleford, who was moving forward, when he came into confrontation with Ron Artest.
- An exchange of fisticuffs appeared to have occurred between Ron
 Artest and Patron, Mr. Shackleford.
- 14. Plaintiff Charles Haddad was behind Mr. Shackleford, and during the fight between Messrs. Artest and Shackleford, Plaintiff was knocked down by Ron Artest.
- 15. Before he could get up, and while he was still face-down, Plaintiff was jumped upon by Defendant Anthony Johnson, and pounded repeatedly in the back

of his neck, head, kidneys and other proximate anatomical areas for a period of time.

Palace security guards had to pull Defendant Mr. Johnson off Plaintiff.

- 16. Plaintiff was obviously physically injured by the attack of Defendant Johnson, and had to be helped to his feet by the security guards.
- 17. While he was being helped to his feet and while still groggy, unbelievably Defendant Jermaine O'Neal came running from middle court toward the helpless Plaintiff, and struck him barehanded with a windup punch that has been seen and replayed on videotape around the world. He flattened Plaintiff, as that terminology is used in the sport of boxing.
 - 18. The punch by Defendant O'Neal was to Plaintiff's face.
- 19. Plaintiff had to be moved from the Palace by stretcher to an EMStype vehicle, and then transported to the nearest emergency room, which was Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital.
- 20. Plaintiff has suffered severe and significant injuries, not the least of which are concussion, damage to the head, face, cheek, gums and brain, as well as injuries to the back and kidney area.
 - 21. Plaintiff is still under medical treatment as a result of those injuries.
- 22. Plaintiff has lost substantial amounts of time from work, and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

23. Plaintiff has suffered pain and distress from his physical injuries, emotional distress, humiliation and anguish, medical expenses, and Plaintiff requests punitive and exemplary damages allowed under law.

COUNT I - ASSAULT AND BATTERY

- 24. Plaintiff incorporates all allegations in the preceding paragraphs of his Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.
- 25. On November 19, 2004, Plaintiff, a season ticket holder, was intentionally, brutally and viciously assaulted and beaten by Defendants Johnson and O'Neal while they were in the course of their employment with Defendant Indiana Pacers.
- 26. The acts of assault and battery by Defendants Johnson and O'Neal were committed within the scope of their employment and/or agency with Defendant Indiana Pacers.
- 27. As a proximate result of the assault and battery inflicted upon him, Plaintiff has suffered numerous injuries and damages.

COUNT II - WANTON AND WILLFUL MISCONDUCT

- 28. Plaintiff incorporates all allegations in the preceding paragraphs of his Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.
- 29. The attacks by Defendants Johnson and O'Neal were intentional, and as such constitute wanton and willful misconduct.

30. At the time of these attacks, Defendants Johnson and O'Neal were employees and/or agents of Defendant Indiana Pacers.

RELIEF SOUGHT

- 31. Plaintiff incorporates all allegations in the preceding paragraphs of his Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.
- 32. As a result of the assault and battery, and wanton and willful conduct of Defendants, Plaintiff requests monetary damages as follows:
- (a) Compensatory damages against Defendants in an amount deemed appropriate by the trier of the facts, including, without limitation, medical and medical-related expenses, loss of earnings, earning capacity, etc.
 - Punitive or exemplary damages as allowed by law. (b)
 - Pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, and all damages (c) allowed by law.
 - (d) Damages for past and future mental and emotional distress.
 - Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and (e) proper.

CHARFOOS & CHRISTENSEN, P.C.

Ву:	
	L. S. CHARFOOS P11799
	JASON J. THOMPSON P47184

Attorneys for Plaintiff 5510 Woodward Avenue Detroit, MI 48202 (313) 875-8080

Dated: December 20, 2004

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

NOW COMES Plaintiff, by and through his attorneys, CHARFOOS &

CHRISTENSEN, P.C., and demands trial by jury in the above-entitled cause of action.

CHARFOOS & CHRISTENSEN, P.C.

JASON J. THOMPSON P47184

Attorneys for Plaintiff
5510 Woodward Avenue
Detroit, MI 48202

(313) 875-8080

Dated: December 20, 2004

VII. REQUESTED IN VIII. RELATED CASE(S) instructions): N/AIF ANY DOCKET JUDGE NUMBER DATE SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

December 20, 2004

RSUANT TO LOCAL RULE 83.11

1.	Is this a case that has been previously dismissed?		
If yes, give	e the following information:	(XX No
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Case No.:			
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2.	Other than stated above, are there any pending or discontinued or dismissed companion cases in this court, including state court? (Companion cases are it appears substantially similar evidence will be off or related parties are present and the cases arise of transaction or occurrence.)	or any other e matters in w ered or the sa	me A III
If yes, give	e the following information:	'	
Court:			•
Case No.:			
Judge:		•	
Notes:			