Trapani v. Cuomo et al Doc. 45

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

DAMIAN TRAPANI,

Plaintiff,

v.

M. CORYER, Nurse Admin., Auburn Corr. Facility;

NICHOLAS WIWSIANYK, Corr. Officer, Auburn

Corr. Facility; SEAN REILLY, Corr. Officer, Auburn

Corr. Facility; GARY STEINBERG, Corr. Officer,

Auburn Corr. Facility; BRYAN VANTASSELL, Corr.

Officer, Auburn Corr. Facility; JAMES ELSER, Corr.

Officer, Auburn Corr. Facility; J. WRIGHT, Sergeant,

Auburn Corr. Facility; T. CLARK, Corr. Officer,

Auburn Corr. Facility; C. NOVAK, Corr. Officer,

Auburn Corr. Facility; JOHN DOE #7, Lieutenant,

Auburn Corr. Facility; JOHN DOE #10, Captain,

Auburn Corr. Facility; and MOHAMMAD MASUD

IQBAL, Psychiatrist, Auburn Corr. Facility,

Defendants.

APPEARANCES:

OF COUNSEL:

9:14-CV-0683 (GTS/CFH)

DAMIAN TRAPANI, No. 32911 Plaintiff, Pro Se Schenectady County Jail 320 Veeder Avenue Schenectady, New York 12307

HON. ERIC T. SCHNEIDERMAN Attorney General for the State of New York Counsel for Defendants The Capitol Albany, New York 12224

NICOLE E. HAIMSON, ESQ. **Assistant Attorney General**

GLENN T. SUDDABY, Chief United States District Judge

DECISION and ORDER

Currently before the Court, in this *pro se* prisoner civil rights action filed by Damian

Trapani ("Plaintiff") against the twelve above-captioned employees of the New York State

Department of Corrections and Community Supervision ("Defendants"), are Defendants' motion
to dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted
pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6) and for failure to comply with a Court Order pursuant to
Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b), and United States Magistrate Judge Christian F. Hummel's ReportRecommendation recommending that Defendants' motion be granted in part and denied in part.

(Dkt. Nos. 38, 44.) None of the parties have filed an Objection to the Report-Recommendation,
and the deadline in which to do so has expired. (*See generally* Docket Sheet.) After carefully
reviewing the relevant papers herein, including Magistrate Judge Hummel's ReportRecommendation, the Court can find no clear-error in that thorough Report-Recommendation.

Magistrate Judge Hummel has employed the proper standards, accurately recited the facts, and
reasonably applied the law to those facts. As a result, the Report-Recommendation is accepted
and adopted in its entirety for the reasons set forth therein.²

When no objection is made to a report-recommendation, the Court subjects that report-recommendation to only a clear error review. Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b), Advisory Committee Notes: 1983 Addition. When performing such a "clear error" review, "the court need only satisfy itself that there is no clear error on the face of the record in order to accept the recommendation." *Id.*; *see also Batista v. Walker*, 94-CV-2826, 1995 WL 453299, at *1 (S.D.N.Y. July 31, 1995) (Sotomayor, J.) ("I am permitted to adopt those sections of [a magistrate judge's] report to which no specific objection is made, so long as those sections are not facially erroneous.") (internal quotation marks omitted).

The Court notes that it agrees that Plaintiff filed his excessive force claim against Defendants Steinberg, Vantassell and Elser eleven days late for slightly different reasons than those offered by Magistrate Judge Hummel. Specifically, by the Court's count, 103 days (not 101 days) elapsed between February 18, 2011, and June 1, 2011, meaning that the statute of limitations appears to have expired on May 22, 2014 (not May 20, 2014). However, while Plaintiff's Complaint appears to be dated June 1, 2014, his Civil Cover Sheet is clearly dated June 2, 2014, indicating that he initially submitted his package for mailing on Monday, June 2, 2014 (not on Sunday, June 1, 2014). (Dkt. No. 1, Attach. 2.) Even if the Court's calculations

ACCORDINGLY, it is

ORDERED that Magistrate Judge Hummel's Report-Recommendation (Dkt. No. 44) is

ACCEPTED and **ADOPTED** in its entirety; and it is further

ORDERED that Defendants' motion to dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint for failure to

comply with a Court Order pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b) (Dkt. No. 38) is **DENIED**; and it is

further

ORDERED that Defendants' motion to dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint for failure to state

a claim upon which relief can be granted pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6) (Dkt. No. 38) is

GRANTED in part and **DENIED** in part in the following respects:

(1) Plaintiff's Eighth Amendment excessive force claims against Defendants

Steinberg, Vantassell and Elser arising from the incident on February 8, 2011, are

DISMISSED, and those individuals are **TERMINATED** as Defendants in this

action; but

(2) Plaintiff's three remaining claims (i.e., Plaintiff's Eighth Amendment

excessive force claims against Defendants Wright, Clark, Novak, Reilly and

Wiwsianyk arising from the incident of April 4, 2011, his First Amendment

retaliation claim against Defendant Coryer, and his and Fourteenth Amendment

due process claim against Defendant Iqbal) **SURVIVE** Defendants' motion to

dismiss.

Dated: July 15, 2016

Syracuse, New York

HON. GLENN T. SUDDAB

Chief United States District Judge

are in error, however, eleven days elapsed between the expiration of the limitations period and the filing of Plaintiff's referenced excessive force claim, according to Magistrate Judge

Hummel's calculations.

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