

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

|  |   |                                   |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| <b>MICHAEL BENNETT,</b>                | : | <b>CIV NO. 3:18-CV-517</b>        |
|  | : |                                   |
| <b>Plaintiff,</b>                      | : | <b>(Judge Caputo)</b>             |
|  | : |                                   |
| <b>v.</b>                              | : | <b>(Magistrate Judge Carlson)</b> |
|  | : |                                   |
| <b>PRIMECARE MEDICAL INC., et al.,</b> | : |                                   |
|  | : |                                   |
| <b>Defendants.</b>                     | : |                                   |

**MEMORANDUM ORDER**

This *pro se* prisoner lawsuit brought by Michael Bennett, a state prisoner, involves allegations of Eighth Amendment violations involving the prison food service and healthcare providers at the Cumberland County Prison. There are currently two defense motions for summary judgment pending in this case. (Docs. 43 and 46.) Responses to these motions are due from the plaintiff, but Bennett, who has recently been released from custody, reports that he is endeavoring to arrange for counsel, and seeks to stay this litigation indefinitely while he works to retain counsel. (Doc.54.)

We appreciate Bennett’s desire to arrange for the assistance of counsel, but also recognize a need to ensure that this litigation progresses in a timely manner.

Accordingly, in order to accommodate these competing needs, Bennett's motion, (Doc. 54) is GRANTED in part as follows:

1. In order to allow Bennett to endeavor to retain the services of counsel, IT IS ORDERED that on or before **August 9, 2019**, Bennett will either arrange for the entry of appearance by counsel in this case or notify the court that he will continue to proceed *pro se*.

2. Unless newly retained counsel enters an appearance and seeks an extension of time, on or before **August 30, 2019**, the plaintiff will file a response to the defense motions for summary judgment.

So ordered this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July 2019.

S/ Martin C. Carlson  
MARTIN C. CARLSON  
United States Magistrate Judge