

Arkansas State Claims Commission

JUL 10 2024

RECEIVED

Please print in ink or type

BEFORE THE STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION Of the State of Arkansas

- Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss

Mr. Dana Smith (ADC [redacted])

Claimant

vs.

State of Arkansas, Respondent

Do Not Write in These Spaces Claim No. Date Filed Amount of Claim \$ Fund

COMPLAINT

Mr. Dana Smith (ADC [redacted])

the above named Claimant, of [redacted]

(Name)

(Street or R.F.D. & No.)

(City)

ARW /

County of Pulaski

represented by N/A

(State) (Zip Code) (Daytime Phone No.)

(Legal Counsel, if any, for Claim)

of (Street and No.) (City) (State) (Zip Code) (Phone No.) (Fax No.) says:

State agency involved: Arkansas Division of Correction Amount sought: 2.5 million

Month, day, year and place of incident or service: on October 18, 2023, I was housed in

Explanation: barracks 5 of the Arkansas Division of corrections, [redacted] on this date I was assaulted by multiple inmates. Because of this assault I have [redacted]

This assault was made possible by the understaffing and over crowding of the [redacted] unit. There was only one officer covering two barracks, approximately 120 inmates part of the officer job is to protect me from other inmates. Because of The Arkansas Division of corrections, common practice of understaffing the officer was unable to provide me with the necessary protection.

As parts of this complaint, the claimant makes the statements, and answers the following questions, as indicated: (1) Has claim been presented to any state department or officer thereof?

(Yes or No) when? (Month) (Day) (Year) to whom? (Department) and that the following action was taken thereon:

and that \$ was paid thereon: (2) Has any third person or corporation an interest in this claim? if so, state name and address

(Name) (Street or R.F.D. & No.) (City) (State) (Zip Code) and that the nature thereof is as follows:

: and was acquired on in the following manner:

THE UNDERSIGNED states on oath that he or she is familiar with the matters and things set forth in the above complaint, and that he or she verily believes that they are true.

(Print Claimant/Representative Name)

(Signature of Claimant/Representative)

SWORN TO and subscribed before me at



on this 28 day of June, 2024 (Date) (Month) (Year)

(Signature of Notary Public)

(Notary Public)

My Commission Expires: 03 16 2025 (Month) (Day) (Year)

SF1- R799

**ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION**

(501) 682-1619  
FAX (501) 682-2823



KATHRYN IRBY  
DIRECTOR

101 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE  
SUITE 410  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS  
72201-3823

August 9, 2024

Dana Smith (ADC [REDACTED])  
[REDACTED]

RE: **Claim No. 250064 – deficient filing**

---

Dear Mr. Smith,

This office received claim documents relating to an incident that occurred on October 18, 2023. Your claim cannot be filed, however, because your complaint form has not been signed.

Please have the enclosed form signed and return the form to this office. Your other claim documents will be retained here to be filed upon receipt.

Contact my office with questions.

Sincerely,

Mika Tucker

ES: cmcdaniel

Enclosures (claim form file-marked 7/10/24)

**From:** [ASCC New Claims](#)  
**To:** [Tawnie Rowell \(DOC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Kathryn Irby](#); [Mika Tucker](#)  
**Subject:** CLAIM: Dana Smith v. ADC, Claim No. 250064  
**Date:** Thursday, September 12, 2024 12:41:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [Dana Smith v. ADC agency ltr .pdf](#)  
[Dana Smith Claim Form - 250064.pdf](#)  
[Dana Smith Deficient Letter mailed to CI \(1\) - 250064.pdf](#)  
[Dana Smith Updated Claim Form - 250064.pdf](#)

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Please see attached. Contact Mika Tucker with any questions.

Thank you,  
Caitlin

**Caitlin McDaniel**

*Administrative Specialist II*

**Arkansas State Claims Commission**

101 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 410

Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

(501) 682-1619

## ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

(501)682-1619  
FAX (501)682-2823



KATHRYN IRBY  
DIRECTOR

101 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE  
SUITE 410  
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201-3823

September 12, 2024

Ms. Tawnie Rowell  
Arkansas Division of Correction  
1302 Pike Avenue, Suite C  
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72114

*(via email)*

RE: ***Dana Smith v. Arkansas Division of Correction***  
**Claim No. 250064**

Dear Ms. Rowell,

Enclosed please find a copy of the above-styled claim filed against the Arkansas Division of Correction. Pursuant to the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure, as well as Claims Commission Rule 2.2, you have **thirty days from the date of service** in which to file a responsive pleading.

Your responsive pleading should include your agency number, fund code, appropriation code, and activity/section/unit/element that this claim should be charged against, if liability is admitted, or if the Claims Commission approves this claim for payment. This information is necessary even if your agency denies liability.

Sincerely,

Mika Tucker

ES: cmcdaniel

cc: Dana Smith (ADC [REDACTED] *Claimant* (w/ encl.))

<p><b>Note to Claimant or Claimant's counsel:</b> The Claims Commission copied you on this correspondence to provide you with confirmation that your claim has been processed and served upon the respondent agency.</p>
--

Arkansas State Claims Commission  
JUL 10 2024  
RECEIVED

Please print in ink or type

BEFORE THE STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION  
Of the State of Arkansas

- Mr.
- Mrs.
- Ms.
- Miss

Mr. Dana Smith (ADC [redacted]), Claimant

**Do Not Write in These Spaces**

Claim No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date Filed \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

Amount of Claim \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Arkansas State Claims Commission  
AUG 16 2024  
RECEIVED

vs.  
State of Arkansas, Respondent

COMPLAINT

Mr. Dana Smith (ADC [redacted]), the above named Claimant, of [redacted] (City),  
 [redacted] (Street or R.F.D. & No.)  
 ARK / [redacted] County of Pulaski represented by N/A  
 (State) (Zip Code) (Daytime Phone No.) (Legal Counsel, if any, for Claim)

of [redacted] (Street and No.) [redacted] (City) [redacted] (State) [redacted] (Zip Code) [redacted] (Phone No.) [redacted] (Fax No.) says:  
 State agency involved Arkansas Division of Correction Amount sought: 2.5 million  
 Month, day, year and place of incident or service: on October 18, 2023, I was housed in  
 Explanation barracks 5 of the Arkansas Division of Corrections, [redacted], on this date I was assaulted by multiple inmates. Because of this assault I have [redacted]

This assault was made possible by the understaffing and over crowding of the [redacted]. There was only one officer covering two barracks, approximately 120 minutes part of the officer's job is to protect me from other inmates. Because of the Arkansas Division of Corrections, common practice of understaffing the officer was unable to provide me with the necessary protection.

As parts of this complaint, the claimant makes the statements, and answers the following questions, as indicated: (1) Has claim been presented to any state department or officer thereof? when? (Month) (Day) (Year); to whom? (Department) (Yes or No) and that the following action was taken thereon:  
 and that \$ \_\_\_\_\_ was paid thereon: (2) Has any third person or corporation an interest in this claim? if so, state name and address (Name) (Street or R.F.D. & No.) (City) (State) (Zip Code) and that the nature thereof is as follows: and was acquired on \_\_\_\_\_, in the following manner:

THE UNDERSIGNED states on oath that he or she is familiar with the matters and things set forth in the above complaint, and that he or she verily believes that they are true.  
 Dana Smith (Print Claimant/Representative Name) [Signature] (Signature of Claimant/Representative)

MARY LLOYD  
 NOTARY PUBLIC-STATE OF ARKANSAS  
 LINCOLN COUNTY  
 My Commission Expires 03-16-2025  
 Commission # 12403317

SWORN TO and subscribed before me at \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State)  
 on this 28 day of June 2024  
 (Date) (Month) (Year)  
 [Signature] (Notary Public)  
 My Commission Expires: 03 16 2025  
 (Month) (Day) (Year)

SFI-R799

**Mika Tucker**

---

**From:** Kris Higdon (DOC)  
**Sent:** Friday, September 27, 2024 8:30 AM  
**To:** ASCC Pleadings  
**Cc:** Tawnie Rowell (DOC)  
**Subject:** Dana Smith v. ADC, 250064  
**Attachments:** 12(b) Motion to Dismiss.pdf

Please see attached motion to dismiss.

Kris Alan Higdon (Mr.)  
Attorney at Law  
Office of the Secretary  
1302 Pike Ave., Suite C  
North Little Rock, AR 72114  
Phone: 501-682-9593  
Kris.a.higdon@doc.arkansas.gov

## BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

DANA SMITH ( [REDACTED]

CLAIMANT

v

NO. 250064

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
DIVISION OF CORRECTION

RESPONDENT

RULE 12(b)(6) MOTION TO DISMISS

Comes Now the Respondent, Arkansas Department of Corrections (ADC), for its Motion to Dismiss, states:

1. The inmate's claim should be dismissed pursuant to the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure (ARCP) 12(b)(6) as it fails to state facts upon which relief can be granted.
2. On a motion to dismiss pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6) of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure the courts treat the facts alleged in complaints as true and view them in the light most favorable to the plaintiff. *Dockery v Morgan, 2011 Ark. 94*. "However, [Arkansas's] rules require fact pleading, and a complaint must state facts, not mere conclusions, in order to entitle the pleader to relief." *Id.* The Court should "treat only the facts alleged in the complaint as true but not the plaintiff's theories, speculation, or statutory interpretation." *Id.*
3. An "important mechanism for weeding out meritless claims [is a] motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim." *Fifth Third Bancorp v. Dudenhoeffler, 573 U.S. 409, 425 (2014)*. Legal conclusions, unsupported conclusions, and unwarranted inferences must be ignored and fail to withstand a Rule 12(b)(6) motion. *See Farm Credit Svcs. v American State bank, 339 F.3d 764 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2003)*. A pleading must contain a "short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief. *Ashcraft v Iqbal 556 U.S. 662 (2009)*. Although detailed factual allegations are not required, more that "unadorned, the-defendant-unlawfully-harmed-me-

accusations” are required. *Id.* To survive a motion to dismiss, a complaint must contain sufficient factual matter that, when accepted as true, state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face. *Id.* A claim is facially plausible “when the plaintiff pleads factual content that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged.” *Id.*

4. Arkansas law requires a claimant to exhaust “all available state or administrative remedies” before bringing a claim before this Commission.

5. Here, Claimant failed to provide any evidence that he exhausted his administrative remedies by filing a grievance in accordance with AD 19-34.

6. Pro Se parties are not given special treatment and are held to the same standard as a licensed attorney. *Pressler v. Ark. Publ. Serv. Comm’n*, 2011 Ark. App. 512, at 9, 385 S.W.3d 349, 355 (citing *Elder v. Mark Ford & Assocs.*, 103 Ark. App. 302, 288 S.W.3d 702 (2008)). The Claims Commission notes that under Arkansas law, a claimant choosing to represent himself is held to the same standard as an attorney. *Michael Pickens v ADC claim 190793 (ASCC 2019)*.

7. Whether a plaintiff is represented by counsel or is appearing pro se, his complaint must allege specific facts sufficient to state a claim. *See Martin v Sargent*, 780 F.2d 1334, 1337 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1985).

8. A complaint must state facts, not mere conclusions, in order to satisfy the requirements of Rule 8 of the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure. *Doe v Weiss*, 2010 Ark. 150.

9. In reviewing whether a complaint is subject to dismissal, the Court must accept as true all factual allegations in the complaint, but is “not bound to accept as true a legal conclusion couched as a factual allegation.” *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009) (quoting *Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 555 (2007)). “Threadbare recitals of the elements of a cause of action, supported by mere conclusory statements, do not suffice.” *Id.* “Nor does a

complaint suffice if it “tenders ‘naked assertion[s]’ devoid of ‘further factual enhancement.’” *Id.* (quoting *Twombly*, 550 U.S. at 557). Rather, a complaint must plead “enough facts to state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face.” *Twombly*, 550 U.S. at 570. “A claim has facial plausibility when the plaintiff pleads factual content that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged.” *Iqbal*, 556 U.S. at 678. “The plausibility standard is not akin to a ‘probability requirement,’ but it asks for more than a sheer possibility that a defendant has acted unlawfully.” *Id.* (quoting *Twombly*, 550 U.S. at 556). A well pleaded complaint may proceed even if it appears that actual proof of those facts is improbable and that recovery is very remote and unlikely. *Twombly*, 550 U.S. at 556. A complaint cannot, however, simply leave open the possibility that a plaintiff might later establish some set of undisclosed facts to support recovery. *Id.* at 561. Rather, the facts set forth in the complaint must be sufficient to nudge the claims across the line from conceivable to plausible. *Id.* at 570. “[W]here the well-pleaded facts do not permit the court to infer more than the mere possibility of misconduct, the complaint has alleged –but it has not ‘show[n]’ – ‘that the pleader is entitled to relief.’” *Iqbal*, 556 U.S. at 679 (quoting *Fed.R.Civ.P.* 8(a)(2)).

10. The Plausibility standard is not akin to a “probability requirement” but it asks for more than a sheer possibility that a defendant has acted unlawfully. Where a complaint pleads facts that are “merely consistent with” a defendant’s liability, it” stops short of the line between possibility a plausibility of entitlement to relief.” *Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 555 (2007)

WHEREFORE, the Respondent prays that the motion be granted and the complaint dismissed; and all other just and proper relief to which they may be entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Kris Alan Higdon  
Kris Alan Higdon #2004115  
Arkansas Department of Corrections  
1302 Pike Ave., Suite C  
North Little Rock, AR 72114  
Telephone: (501) 682-9593  
Kris.a.higdon@doc.arkansas.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Kris Alan Higdon, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served upon persons set out below, via first class mail, on this 27<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024.

DANA SMITH ( [REDACTED] )  
[REDACTED]

/s/ Kris Alan Higdon  
Kris Alan Higdon

**Mika Tucker**

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**From:** Misty Scott on behalf of ASCC Pleadings  
**Sent:** Monday, February 10, 2025 9:15 AM  
**To:** Kris Higdon (DOC)  
**Cc:** ASCC Pleadings; Yolanda Charles (DOC); Mika Tucker  
**Subject:** ORDER: Dana Smith v. ADC, Claim No. 250064  
**Attachments:** Dana Smith v. ADC .pdf; Dana Smith-order.pdf

Mr. Higdon:

Please see attached. Contact Mika Tucker with any questions.

Thank you,

*Misty*

**Misty Scott**  
**Arkansas State Claims Commission**

**ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION**

(501) 682-1619  
FAX (501) 682-2823



KATHRYN IRBY  
DIRECTOR

101 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE  
SUITE 410  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS  
72201-3823

February 10, 2025

Mr. Dana Smith (ADC [REDACTED])  
[REDACTED]

Mr. Kris Higdon  
Arkansas Division of Correction  
1302 Pike Avenue, Suite C  
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72114

(via email)

Re: *Dana Smith v. Arkansas Division of Correction*  
Claim No. 250064

---

Dear Mr. Smith and Mr. Higdon:

Enclosed please find an Order entered on February 6, 2025, by the Arkansas State Claims Commission. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Mika Tucker

ES: msscott

## BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

DANA SMITH (ADC [REDACTED])

CLAIMANT

V.

CLAIM NO. 250064

ARKANSAS DIVISION OF  
CORRECTION

RESPONDENT

ORDER

Now before the Arkansas State Claims Commission (the “Commission”) is a motion filed by the Arkansas Division of Correction (the “Respondent”) to dismiss the claim of Dana Smith (the “Claimant”). Based upon a review of the motion, the arguments made therein, and the law of Arkansas, the Commission hereby finds as follows:

1. Claimant filed his claim on August 16, 2024, seeking \$2,500,000.00 in damages related to an assault by other inmates.
2. Respondent filed a motion to dismiss arguing, *inter alia*, that Claimant failed to exhaust his administrative remedies.
3. Claimant did not respond.
4. Upon review of the pleadings, the Commission agrees with Respondent that dismissal is proper. Claimant has failed to attach any documentation that he exhausted his administrative remedies. Under the doctrine of exhaustion of administrative remedies, a claimant must utilize and exhaust the administrative remedies before seeking relief from the Claims Commission. *See Ark. Dept. of Health and Human Servs. v. Smith*, 370 Ark. 490, 492-93 (2007). The purpose of this doctrine is to provide the agency with an opportunity to address the issue. *See id.* Where a claimant fails to exhaust his or her administrative remedies, the Commission lacks jurisdiction to hear the claim.

5. An additional basis to dismiss exists pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-223, which provides that dismissal is proper “if the claimant has failed to submit . . . documentation that the claimant has exhausted all available . . . administrative remedies.”

6. Respondent’s motion to dismiss is GRANTED, and Claimant’s claim is DISMISSED without prejudice.

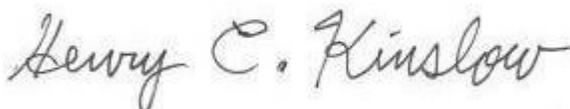
7. If Claimant did exhaust his administrative remedies, Claimant may refile his claim and attach the relevant documentation as required by Arkansas law.

IT IS SO ORDERED.




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ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION  
Dee Holcomb




---

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION  
Henry Kinslow, Chair




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ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION  
Paul Morris

DATE: February 6, 2025

**Notice(s) which may apply to your claim**

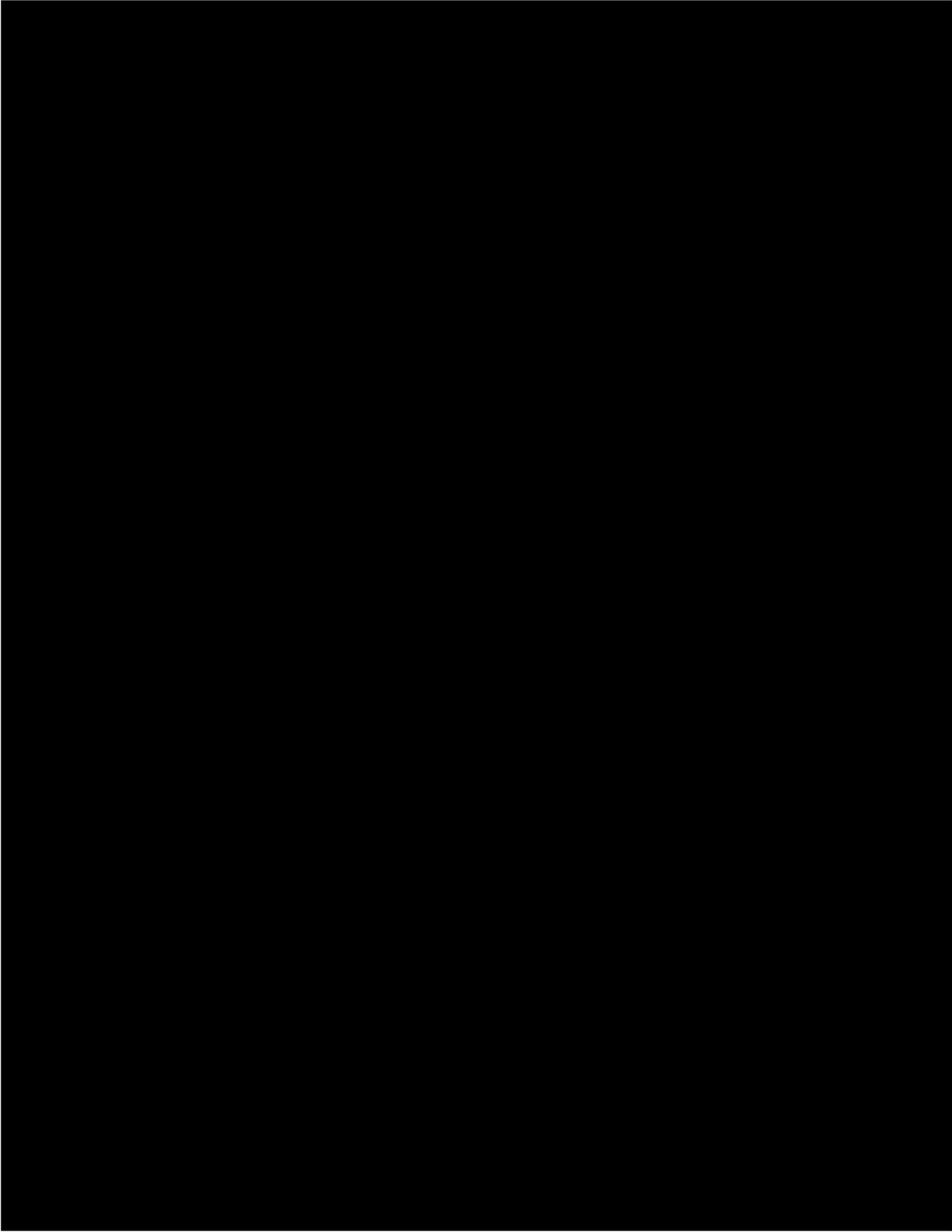
- (1) A party has forty (40) days from transmission of this Order to file a Motion for Reconsideration or a Notice of Appeal with the Claims Commission. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(1). If a Motion for Reconsideration is denied, that party then has twenty (20) days from the transmission of the denial of the Motion for Reconsideration to file a Notice of Appeal with the Claims Commission. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(1)(B)(ii). A decision of the Claims Commission may only be appealed to the General Assembly. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(3).
- (2) If a Claimant is awarded less than \$15,000.00 by the Claims Commission at hearing, that claim is held forty (40) days from the date of disposition before payment will be processed. *See* Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a). Note: This does not apply to agency admissions of liability and negotiated settlement agreements.
- (3) Awards or negotiated settlement agreements of \$15,000.00 or more are referred to the General Assembly for approval and authorization to pay. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-215(b).

Arkansas  
State Claims Commission

FEB 26 2025

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I want to file a motion for reconsideration or appeal with the claims commission. Due to the fact that this happened 2023 and I still am being treated by UAMS for this assault from other inmates from failure of protection by ADC staff due to under staffing, overcrowding, and plus their's NO cameras in the barracks. I have no access to my medical records so I'm limited to proof of my claim injuries, but if you guys get access to my medical records you will see the **PROOF** of how serious my injuries are and all of the doctor visits and bills. Because of this assault I will never have 20/20 vision in my right eye which leave's me partially blind do to a cut in the center of my retina which is were your vision start's. Even if I'm not granted 2,500,000.00 I deserve some compensation for my injury, bills and pain I suffer from the lack of protection, understaffing, and overcrowding of ADC Wrightsville facility.



**Mika Tucker**

---

**From:** Misty Scott on behalf of ASCC Pleadings  
**Sent:** Monday, July 21, 2025 12:22 PM  
**To:** Tawnie Rowell (DOC); Miles S. Morgan; Trent Rigdon (DOC); Taylor Reavis (DOC); Yolanda Charles (DOC)  
**Cc:** ASCC Pleadings; Mika Tucker  
**Subject:** ORDER: Dana Smith v. ADC, Claim No. 250064  
**Attachments:** Dana Smith v. ADC2.pdf; Dana Smith-order2.pdf

Dear Counselors:

Please see attached. Contact Mika Tucker with any questions.

Thank you,

*Misty*

**Misty Scott**  
**Arkansas State Claims Commission**

## ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

(501) 682-1619  
FAX (501) 682-2823



KATHRYN IRBY  
DIRECTOR

101 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE  
SUITE 410  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS  
72201-3823

July 21, 2025

Mr. Dana Smith (ADC [REDACTED])  
[REDACTED]

Ms. Tawnie Rowell  
Mr. Miles Morgan  
Mr. Trent Rigdon  
Ms. Taylor Reavis  
Arkansas Division of Correction  
1302 Pike Avenue, Suite C  
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72114

(via email)

Re: ***Dana Smith v. Arkansas Division of Correction***  
Claim No. 250064

---

Dear Mr. Smith, Ms. Rowell, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Rigdon, and Ms. Reavis:

Enclosed please find an Order entered on July 18, 2025, by the Arkansas State Claims Commission. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Mika Tucker

ES: msscott

## BEFORE THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

DANA SMITH (ADC [REDACTED])

CLAIMANT

V.

CLAIM NO. 250064

ARKANSAS DIVISION OF  
CORRECTION

RESPONDENT

**ORDER ON CLAIMANT'S  
MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Now before the Arkansas State Claims Commission (the "Commission") is a motion filed by Dana Smith (the "Claimant") for reconsideration of the Commission's February 6, 2025, order denying and dismissing Claimant's claim against the Arkansas Division of Correction (the "Respondent"). Based upon a review of the motion, the arguments made therein, and the law of Arkansas, the Commission hereby unanimously finds as follows:

1. Claimant filed his claim on August 16, 2024, seeking \$2,500,000.00 in damages related to an assault by other inmates.
2. Respondent filed a motion to dismiss arguing, *inter alia*, that Claimant failed to exhaust his administrative remedies. The Commission agreed and granted Respondent's motion to dismiss on February 6, 2025.
3. Claimant thereafter filed the instant motion for reconsideration, arguing, *inter alia*, that he had no access to his medical records.
4. Respondent did not respond to the motion for reconsideration.
5. In analyzing a motion for reconsideration, Rule 7.1 of the Commission Rules and Regulations states that motions for reconsideration "will only be entertained if they set forth new or additional evidence which was not [previously] available . . . ."

6. The Commission finds that the motion does not set forth new or additional evidence not previously available. As such, Claimant's motion for reconsideration is DENIED, and the February 6, 2025, Commission order remains in effect.

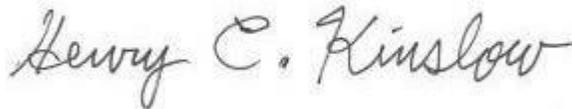
7. The Commission notes that Claimant's motion for reconsideration contains a notice of appeal. Therefore, the Commission will transmit this claim file to the Arkansas General Assembly pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211.

IT IS SO ORDERED.




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ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION  
Dee Holcomb




---

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION  
Henry Kinslow, Chair




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ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION  
Sylvester Smith

DATE: July 18, 2025

**Notice(s) which may apply to your claim**

- (1) A party has forty (40) days from transmission of this Order to file a Motion for Reconsideration or a Notice of Appeal with the Claims Commission. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(1). If a Motion for Reconsideration is denied, that party then has twenty (20) days from the transmission of the denial of the Motion for Reconsideration to file a Notice of Appeal with the Claims Commission. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(1)(B)(ii). A decision of the Claims Commission may only be appealed to the General Assembly. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-211(a)(3).
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- (3) Awards or negotiated settlement agreements of \$15,000.00 or more are referred to the General Assembly for approval and authorization to pay. Ark. Code Ann. § 19-10-215(b).