

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
MACON DIVISION



MINUTE SHEET  
OF COURT PROCEEDINGS

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Date: 4/28/2021 Type of Hearing: Status Conference  
(via Zoom)  
Judge: Marc T. Treadwell Court Reporter: Darlene Fuller  
Courtroom Deputy: Kim A. Tavalero Law Clerk: Will McDavid  
Courtroom: A

**Case Number: 5:20-cv-453 (MTT)**

Ashley Diamond Counsel: Chinyere Ezie  
Beth Littrell  
Maya Gyan Rajaratnam

v.

Timothy Ward, et al. Counsel: Robert Shapiro  
Roger Chalmers

Arneika Smith Counsel: Annarita McGovern

*Disclaimer: Contents of this Minute Sheet are for administrative purposes ONLY and are NOT meant as a substitution for the official court record. Attorneys should contact the court reporter and order a transcript if there are any questions as to the contents herein.*

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**Court time for JS10/MJSTAR: 2 hours / 13 minutes**

2:01 pm Called to order. Identification of parties. Preliminary remarks by the Court.  
Discussion regarding the witnesses the Court anticipates needing for the May 12th hearing.  
Discussion regarding failure to protect issue and medical issues. The principal focus of the May 12 hearing will be failure to protect.  
Discussion regarding plaintiff's release date and documents alleged to have been sent to the Parole Board.  
Discussion regarding witnesses to specific incidents.  
Discussion regarding witnesses plaintiff and defendants anticipated

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calling for the hearing. Discussion regarding availability of witnesses. Discussion regarding plaintiff's request to change into court attire once at the courthouse. Neither the Court nor defendants are opposed to that, but the decision is ultimately up to GDC based on security protocols. Discussion regarding depositions, designations, and using them during the hearing.

Discussion regarding length of hearing. Discussion regarding possibility of deposing witnesses not subject to subpoena.

Discussion regarding COVID-19 protocols at the courthouse. Discussion regarding electronic exhibits. Ms. Tavalero will reach out to the parties regarding presentation and requirements of exhibits.

The Court instructed the parties as follows:

- Mr. Chalmers shall advise the Court whether there is any video evidence from 6/19/2020 dorm meeting.
- Mr. Chalmers shall advise the Court regarding what documents were sent to the Parole Board.
- The request to use pseudonym convention for confidential witness is deferred for now—it may present a public access issue.
- The Court will quickly determine whether Defendant A. Smith will be required to attend the hearing.
- The Court will enter an order permitting defendants to file motion responses as restricted documents, subject to determination of what can be put on public docket.
- The parties shall submit copies of depositions with designations.

4:14 pm Adjourned.