

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

CRISTINA NICHOLE IGLESIAS  
(a.k.a. CRISTIAN NOEL IGLESIAS),

Plaintiff,

v.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Case No. 19-cv-00415-NJR

Judge Nancy J. Rosenstengel

**PLAINTIFF’S RESPONSE TO  
DEFENDANTS’ MARCH 25, 2022 STATUS REPORT**

On February 22, 2022, this Court ordered Defendants to “file weekly updates on contacts with the surgeon, the surgeon’s response, and any other items relating to Ms. Iglesias’s care” every Friday until further notice. ECF No. 200 at 2. On February 26, 2022, the Court provided that, “[a]s Defendants file weekly updates . . . every Friday, Iglesias’s counsel may file responses to the Defendants’ weekly updates every Wednesday” until further notice. ECF No. 205. Accordingly, Plaintiff submits her fifth such filing in response to Defendants’ March 25, 2022 Status Report, ECF No. 229 (“Mar. 25 Rep.”), and accompanying declaration from Jenna Epplin, ECF No. 229-1 (“Epplin Decl.”).

Ms. Iglesias has long needed gender-affirming surgery and Defendants are obliged to provide her with that medically necessary care without further delay. Ms. Iglesias notes that there is no surgeon yet contracted and that, if Surgeon 1 does not accept Ms. Iglesias, Defendants currently have no concrete backup plan. *See* Mar. 25 Rep. at 1-2. Nor have Defendants yet secured completion of the necessary surgery-referral letters. *See id.* at 2.

Last week, Ms. Iglesias was seen by a dermatology practice in Miami Beach for an initial consultation on pre-surgery hair removal. *See* Iglesias Declaration at ¶ 1. At that appointment, the provider examined Ms. Iglesias’s body and pattern of hair growth and estimated that Ms. Iglesias

will need six hair-removal appointments for laser treatment to achieve the necessary level of pre-surgery hair removal. *Id.* at ¶ 3. The provider also told Ms. Iglesias that there will need to be at least a full month in between each laser-treatment appointment. *Id.* Ms. Iglesias currently has her first session of laser hair removal scheduled for April 8, 2022. *Id.* at ¶ 4. Assuming (i) that there are no delays in scheduling appointments, (ii) that Ms. Iglesias’s body responds to treatment strictly in line with the provider’s estimation, and (iii) that no other unforeseen issues arise, the earliest that permanent hair removal at the surgery site would be complete is September 2022.

Had Defendants begun permanent hair removal for Ms. Iglesias much earlier—or even when they finally approved her for gender-affirming surgery over two months ago in January 2022—Ms. Iglesias would be ready to get the surgery she so urgently needs that much sooner.<sup>1</sup> Gender-affirming surgery has been medically necessary for Ms. Iglesias for *years*, and she suffers each day it is delayed because of the cumulative effect of Defendants’ past and present actions.

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<sup>1</sup> Of course, Defendants did not even discuss permanent pre-surgery hair removal at their January 2022 meeting approving Ms. Iglesias’s surgery, Hearing Tr. at 101—and their subsequent proposal expressly called for waiting until after Ms. Iglesias’s initial surgical consultation (which has not yet occurred) to begin arranging the pre-surgery hair-removal process, *id.* at 100-101.

Dated: March 30, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Frank Battaglia

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on March 30, 2022, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of this Court by using the CM/ECF system, which will accomplish service through the Notice of Electronic Filing for parties and attorneys who are Filing Users.

Dated: March 30, 2022

/s/ Frank Battaglia  
Frank Battaglia

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**DECLARATION OF CRISTINA NICHOLE IGLESIAS IN SUPPORT  
OF PLAINTIFF'S RESPONSE TO DEFENDANTS' REPORT OF MARCH 23, 2022**

I, Cristina Nichole Iglesias, am the Plaintiff in the above-captioned case. I have personal knowledge of the information set forth herein and if called upon to testify, I would testify to the truth of the following:

1. On March 24, 2022, I had an appointment and initial consultation with Dr. Marcy Alvarez at Lincoln Road Dermatology, a dermatology practice in Miami Beach, Florida.

2. Upon information and belief, Lincoln Road Dermatology uses laser hair removal as their technique for all permanent hair-removal treatments.

3. At the appointment, Dr. Alvarez examined my body and pattern of hair growth. Based on this examination, she estimated that I will need six hair-removal appointments for laser treatment to achieve the necessary level of pre-surgery hair removal. She also said that there will need to be a minimum of one month in between each laser-treatment appointment.

4. I have not yet had any permanent hair removal treatment. My first session is currently scheduled for April 8, 2022.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: March 29, 2022

/s/ Cristina Nichole Iglesias  
Cristina Nichole Iglesias<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Plaintiff's counsel spoke with Ms. Iglesias on March 29, 2022, by telephone. During this conversation Ms. Iglesias authorized Plaintiff's counsel to file this declaration on her behalf. Plaintiff's counsel will supplement this declaration with a signed copy from Ms. Iglesias once it is returned to them by U.S. Mail from Ms. Iglesias.