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My Case About Being Denied Prison Records Related to Myself, created 22 July 2024

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If you care about the public having access to records regarding incidents within prisons, support my case that challenges WI prison officials denying my request under Wis. Stat. §19.35 for the opportunity to review and copy the Incident Report (#00572630) and body-worn camera (BWC) footage from staff who interacted with me regarding another captive's alleged claim that I slapped his butt. (The claim was false & ridiculous, so I suspect that staff either made it up or coerced him to lie.)

The incident happened within two weeks of me settling another lawsuit for a large sum, and, as a result, I was kept in Seg for two weeks, in filthy conditions, had much of my property lost or stolen by staff. So, I suspect misconduct by staff and sought all of the records.

My request was denied & I filed what's called a "Mandamus" action that challenged the denial. It's Case #24-CV-001066, Lindell v. Rees, pending in Dane County Circuit Court (wcca.wicourts.gov Phone# 608-266-4311), Judge Everett Mitchell presiding.

The attorney representing prison officials, A.A.G. Sandra L. Tarver, (tarversl@doj.state.wi.us Phone #608-266-7630), argued that they must deny me the results of the PREA investigation because I could "manipulate the results," and that all video footage from incidents in prison must be denied to anyone to protect security. My response was that, as in a case involving a legislator accused of sexual misconduct (*Wisconsin State Journal v. Blazel*, 407 Wis.2d 472, 527, 991 N.W.2d 450, 478, (Wis. App. 2023)), I'm entitled to be given the results of that investigation, while blanket bans on record disclosure have consistently been declared illegal by our Supreme Court (*Wisconsin News press, Inc. v. School Dist. of Sheboygan Falls*, 199 Wis.2d 768, 781, 546 N.W.2d 143, 148 (1996)), and video footage is required to be disclosed (see *Journal Sentinel, Inc. v. Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office*, 404 Wis.2d 328, 335, 979 N.W.2d 609, 613 (Wis. App. 2022)), given that it merely shows me talking with staff & poses no real threat to prisons security (it doesn't show people how to break in or out, etc.)

A hearing is scheduled on 14 August, in front of Judge Mitchell. Please be present. It's a Zoom hearing, so ask to be connected. File an amicus curie brief. Call. Tweet. Like. Share. Help me pay my expenses by gifting me funds, which anyone can do by either calling 1-866-345-1884 or going to accesscorrections.com and send money to my account: Nate A. Lindell D.O.C. #303724, a Wisconsin State prisoner.

Here's a text that you can share about my Open Records hearing:

WI prisons refuses to release any body-cam footage sought under Open Records law. I'm challenging this in Dane County Circuit Court Case #24-cv-1066. We have oral arguments w/ Judge Everett Mitchell, Aug. 14 @3PM. Be present! Voice support... public's right to see footage from prison incidents! Support needed!