United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit

August 18, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

> Charles R. Fulbruge III Clerk

No. 04-10029 Conference Calendar

KENT ALTONIO ROGERS,

Plaintiff-Appellant,

versus

EULESS POLICE DEPARTMENT,

Defendant-Appellee.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas USDC No. 4:03-CV-1328-A

Before HIGGINBOTHAM, DAVIS, and PICKERING, Circuit Judges. PER CURIAM:*

Kent Altonio Rogers ("Rogers"), Texas prisoner #1193584, appeals from the district court's dismissal of his 42 U.S.C. § 1983 action for failure to state a claim pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1915(e)(2), 1915A(b). Rogers argues that, prior to his incarceration, the Euless, Texas, Police Department violated his constitutional rights by failing to protect him from a man who assaulted him after Rogers had filed numerous police reports against him. For the first time on appeal, Rogers alleges that

 $^{^*}$ Pursuant to 5TH CIR. R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR. R. 47.5.4.

Detective R.S. Lewis and other Euless Police Department officers discriminated and conspired against him in the course of their investigation of sexual assault and rape charges against him.

Because the district court dismissed Rogers's complaint pursuant to both 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2) and 28 U.S.C. § 1915A, we review the dismissal de novo. See <u>Velasquez v. Woods</u>, 329 F.3d 420, 421 (5th Cir. 2003). The district court did not err in determining that the proper defendant was the City of Euless, Texas, not the Euless Police Department. See Darby v. Pasadena Police Dep't, 939 F.2d 311, 313-14 (5th Cir. 1991). Because local governments have no general constitutional duty to protect individuals from private violence outside of the prison context, the district court did not err by dismissing Rogers's complaint for failure to state a claim. See Piotrowski v. City of Houston, 237 F.3d 567, 583-84 (5th Cir. 2001). We will not consider the remainder of the claims Rogers raises in this court because he did not raise them below. See Stewart Glass & Mirror, Inc. v. <u>U.S. Auto Glass Disc. Ctrs., Inc.</u>, 200 F.3d 307, 316-17 (5th Cir. 2000).

Rogers's appeal is without arguable merit and is frivolous. <u>See Howard v. King</u>, 707 F.2d 215, 219-20 (5th Cir. 1983). Because the appeal is frivolous, it is DISMISSED. <u>See 5TH CIR</u>. R. 42.2. The dismissal of this appeal as frivolous counts as a "strike" for purposes of 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g), as does the district court's dismissal. <u>See Adepegba v. Hammons</u>, 103 F.3d 383, 387-88 (5th Cir. 1996). We warn Rogers that if he accumulates three "strikes" under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g), he will not be able to proceed in forma pauperis in any civil action or appeal filed while he is incarcerated or detained in any facility unless he is under imminent danger of serious physical injury. <u>See</u> 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

APPEAL DISMISSED; STRIKE WARNING ISSUED.