United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

United States Court of Appeals
Fifth Circuit
FILED
November 3, 2026
Thomas B. Plunkett, III
Clerk

No. 25-30498
Summary Calendar

NATHANIEL PAYTON,

Plaintiff—Appellant,

versus

JAMES LEBLANC, *Secretary, Department of Public Safety and Corrections*; MARCUS MYERS, *Warden, Raymond Laborde Correctional Center*; HEATHER CORMIER, *Head Nurse Practitioner*, *Raymond Laborde Correctional Center*; IRIS HARMASON, *Unit Head Registered Nurse, Raymond Laborde Correctional Center*,

Defendants—Appellees.

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Western District of Louisiana
USDC No. 1:23-CV-945

Before JONES, HO, and WILSON, *Circuit Judges*.

PER CURIAM:[*]

Nathaniel Payton, Louisiana prisoner # 567251, appeals the summary judgment dismissal of his 42 U.S.C. § 1983 complaint, which alleged that

[*] This opinion is not designated for publication. *See* 5TH CIR. R. 47.5.

four state officials (the "defendants"), in their official and individual capacities, violated the Eighth Amendment by delaying or denying medical treatment for his hyperthyroidism. Insofar as his official-capacity claims were not based on an alleged ongoing violation of federal law and to the extent they sought monetary damages and retrospective declaratory and injunctive relief, those claims are barred by sovereign immunity. *See NiGen Biotech, L.L.C. v. Paxton*, 804 F.3d 389, 393-94 (5th Cir. 2015). Accordingly, we MODIFY the district court's judgment to reflect the dismissal of those claims without prejudice for lack of jurisdiction. *See John Gannon, Inc. v. Tex. Dep't of Transp.*, 178 F.4th 906, 912 (5th Cir. 2026).

With respect to Payton's remaining claims, the district court did not err by granting the defendants' summary judgment motion. *See Cuadra v. Hou. Indep. Sch. Dist.*, 626 F.3d 808, 812 (5th Cir. 2010). Payton has failed to show any genuine issue of material fact regarding whether substantial harm resulted from any delays in treating his mild hyperthyroidism. *See Duffie v. United States*, 600 F.3d 362, 371 (5th Cir. 2010); *Easter v. Powell*, 467 F.3d 459, 463 (5th Cir. 2006). The summary judgment evidence also does not support Payton's claim that the denial of certain treatments constituted deliberate indifference. *See Easter*, 467 F.3d at 464; *Estelle v. Gamble*, 429 U.S. 97, 107 (1976). Payton has also failed to show any constitutional violation arising from the defendants' handling of his grievances or medical-transfer requests or from the prison's policies. *See Geiger v. Jowers*, 404 F.3d 371, 374 (5th Cir. 2005); *Stewart v. Murphy*, 174 F.3d 530, 535 (5th Cir. 1999).

The district court's judgment is AFFIRMED AS MODIFIED.