

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
PANAMA CITY DIVISION**

MICHAEL HASPEL,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No. 5:23-cv-83-MCR-MJF

CENTURION OF FLORIDA, *et al.*,

Defendants.

**ORDER DIRECTING THE CLERK TO NOTIFY
BAR MEMBERS OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO
REPRESENT THE PLAINTIFF PRO BONO**

The clerk shall send a notice to all attorneys registered with the court's electronic filing system. The notice must state:

This is notice of an opportunity to provide *pro bono* representation in the case of *Haspel v. Centurion of Florida*, No. 5:23-cv-83-MCR-MJF.

Plaintiff is a prisoner in the custody of the Florida Department of Corrections. Plaintiff's third amended complaint is the operative complaint. Doc. 19. Plaintiff is suing Centurion of Florida and four members of the medical staff at Gulf Correctional Institution for damages under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Plaintiff claims that the Defendants were deliberately indifferent to his urgent need to see an ophthalmologist for a retinal tear in his right eye, and that their month-long delay in providing treatment caused 95% loss of vision in that eye. Plaintiff seeks the assistance of legal

counsel because he also suffers complete blindness in his left eye. *See* Docs. 7, 8.

Public funds are not available for payment of attorney's fees. Fees may be recoverable under applicable law if Plaintiff prevails. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 1988(b); *World Outreach Conference Ctr. v. City of Chicago*, 234 F. Supp. 3d 904 (N.D. Ill. 2017). Limited funds sometimes are available from the District's Bench and Bar Fund for the payment of out-of-pocket expenses incurred by an attorney providing representation of this type.

Members of the District's bar will be afforded access to the electronic docket without charge for the purpose of considering whether to undertake the representation. An attorney who wishes to represent Plaintiff may contact him directly and may enter the case by filing a notice of appearance. Plaintiff currently is housed at the Marion Correctional Institution.

SO ORDERED this 24th day of October, 2024.

/s/ Michael J. Frank

Michael J. Frank
United States Magistrate Judge