

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
GENERAL ORDER 10 - 005**

The full Court met in executive session on Thursday, April 29, 2010 and approved a proposal to adopt a Complaint for Violation of Constitutional Rights (non-prisoner) form. The form will assist pro se plaintiffs in clearly stating their cases.

At its meeting on Tuesday, April 13, 2010, the Court's Rules Committee recommended that the full Court adopt the Complaint for Violation of Constitutional Rights form.

The full Court considered the recommendation of the Rules Committee at its meeting on Thursday, April 29, 2010 and agreed to adopt the Complaint for Violation of Constitutional Rights form. Therefore,

By direction of the full Court, which met in executive session on Thursday, April 29, 2010,

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the Complaint for Violation of Constitutional Rights form be adopted as follows (additions shown thus):

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION**

	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	
<b>Plaintiff(s),</b>	)	
	)	
vs.	)	<b>Case No.</b>
	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	
<b>Defendant(s).</b>	)	

**COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS**

*This form complaint is designed to help you, as a pro se plaintiff, state your case in a clear manner. Please read the directions and the numbered paragraphs carefully. Some paragraphs may not apply to you. You may cross out paragraphs that do not apply to you. All references to "plaintiff" and "defendant" are stated in the singular but will apply to more than one plaintiff or defendant if that is the nature of the case.*

1. This is a claim for violation of plaintiff's civil rights as protected by the Constitution and laws of the United States under 42 U.S.C. §§ 1983, 1985, and 1986.
2. The court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1343 and 1367.
3. Plaintiff's full name is \_\_\_\_\_.

*If there are additional plaintiffs, fill in the above information as to the first-named plaintiff and complete the information for each additional plaintiff on an extra sheet.*

4. Defendant, \_\_\_\_\_, is  
 (name, badge number if known)
- an officer or official employed by \_\_\_\_\_;  
 (department or agency of government)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ or
- an individual not employed by a governmental entity.

***If there are additional defendants, fill in the above information as to the first-named defendant and complete the information for each additional defendant on an extra sheet.***

5. The municipality, township or county under whose authority defendant officer or official acted is \_\_\_\_\_. As to plaintiff's federal constitutional claims, the municipality, township or county is a defendant only if custom or policy allegations are made at paragraph 7 below.

6. On or about \_\_\_\_\_, at approximately \_\_\_\_\_  a.m.  p.m.  
 (month, day, year)  
 plaintiff was present in the municipality (or unincorporated area) of \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_, in the County of \_\_\_\_\_,  
 State of Illinois, at \_\_\_\_\_,  
 (identify location as precisely as possible)

when defendant violated plaintiff's civil rights as follows (***Place X in each box that applies***):

- arrested or seized plaintiff without probable cause to believe that plaintiff had committed, was committing or was about to commit a crime;
- searched plaintiff or his property without a warrant and without reasonable cause;
- used excessive force upon plaintiff;
- failed to intervene to protect plaintiff from violation of plaintiff's civil rights by one or more other defendants;
- failed to provide plaintiff with needed medical care;
- conspired together to violate one or more of plaintiff's civil rights;
- Other:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Defendant officer or official acted pursuant to a custom or policy of defendant

municipality, county or township, which custom or policy is the following: *(Leave blank if no custom or policy is alleged)*: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

8. Plaintiff was charged with one or more crimes, specifically:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

9. *(Place an X in the box that applies. If none applies, you may describe the criminal proceedings under "Other")* The criminal proceedings

- are still pending.
- were terminated in favor of plaintiff in a manner indicating plaintiff was innocent.<sup>1</sup>
- Plaintiff was found guilty of one or more charges because defendant deprived me of a fair trial as follows \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

10. Plaintiff further alleges as follows: *(Describe what happened that you believe supports your claims. To the extent possible, be specific as to your own actions and the actions of each defendant.)*

\_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup>Examples of termination in favor of the plaintiff in a manner indicating plaintiff was innocent may include a judgment of not guilty, reversal of a conviction on direct appeal, expungement of the conviction, a voluntary dismissal (SOL) by the prosecutor, or a *nolle prosequi* order.



**WHEREFORE**, plaintiff asks for the following relief:

- A. Damages to compensate for all bodily harm, emotional harm, pain and suffering, loss of income, loss of enjoyment of life, property damage and any other injuries inflicted by defendant;
- B.  (*Place X in box if you are seeking punitive damages.*) Punitive damages against the individual defendant; and
- C. Such injunctive, declaratory, or other relief as may be appropriate, including attorney's fees and reasonable expenses as authorized by 42 U.S.C. § 1988.

Plaintiff's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Plaintiff's name (*print clearly or type*): \_\_\_\_\_

Plaintiff's mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Plaintiff's telephone number: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Plaintiff's email address (*if you prefer to be contacted by email*): \_\_\_\_\_

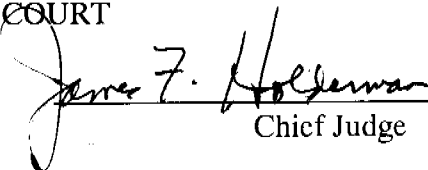
\_\_\_\_\_

15. Plaintiff has previously filed a case/cases in this district.  Yes  No

*If yes, please list the case(s) below.*

*Any additional plaintiffs must sign the complaint and provide the same information as the first plaintiff. An additional signature page may be added.*

ENTER:  
FOR THE COURT

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Judge

Dated at Chicago, Illinois this 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2010.