



**NAILAH K. BYRD**  
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Cleveland, Ohio 44113

**Court of Common Pleas**

**New Case Electronically Filed:**  
**October 14, 2019 18:53**

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Confirmation Nbr. 1841922

GLENN MAYER, JR.

CV 19 923255

vs.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY, ET AL.

**Judge:** ASHLEY KILBANE

**Pages Filed:** 37

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS COURT  
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

<p><b>GLENN MAYER, JR.</b> c/o The Chandra Law Firm LLC The Chandra Law Building 1265 West Sixth Street, Suite 400 Cleveland, OH 44113</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Plaintiff,</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">v.</p> <p><b>CUYAHOGA COUNTY</b> 2079 East Ninth Street Cleveland, OH 44115</p> <p style="text-align: center;">and</p> <p><b>DARRIELL HAYES</b> (in his official and individual capacities) c/o Cuyahoga County Department of Law 2079 East Ninth Street Cleveland, Ohio 44115</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Defendants.</i></p>	<p>Case No.</p> <p>Judge</p>
<b>COMPLAINT WITH JURY DEMAND</b>	

**NATURE OF THE ACTION**

1. This is a civil-rights action brought to redress the brutal and unjustified attack that Plaintiff Glenn Mayer, Jr. endured at the hands of corrections officer Darriell Hayes, who attacked Mr. Mayer when he twitched due to his neurological disorder. Hayes then failed to report this use of force in an effort to cover up his misconduct. Mr. Mayer continues to suffer from the effects of this attack, including impairment of his mobility requiring him to use a walker.
2. Cuyahoga County has cultivated and nurtured a climate of violence and abuse in its jail. The County knew well before Mr. Mayer was injured that its officers were abusing incarcerated citizens. Yet it did nothing to prevent or rectify the abuse, leading to the attack on Mr. Mayer.

## **PARTIES**

3. Plaintiff Glenn Mayer, Jr. is a resident of Cuyahoga County. At all times relevant, Mr. Mayer was held in the Cuyahoga County Correctional Center (“the county jail” or “the jail”).

4. Defendant Cuyahoga County is an Ohio political subdivision responsible for the county jail.

5. Defendant Darriell Hayes is a corrections officer with the jail. At all times relevant he was in uniform and acting under color of state law.

## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

6. The Court has jurisdiction because this action concerns state-law violations by Defendants, and the amount in controversy exceeds \$15,000.

7. The Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants, who are located, work, and/or reside in Cuyahoga County. Venue is proper here because the events giving rise to Mr. Mayer’s claims took place in Cuyahoga County.

## **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

### **Mr. Mayer suffers from a neurological condition that causes muscle spasms and twitching.**

8. Mr. Mayer has central myoclonus. Symptoms of his condition include involuntary spasming and twitching of the muscles. Patients cannot control these tremors, which increase with stress and anxiety.

### **Mr. Mayer twitches. Defendant Hayes chokes him.**

9. In August 2018, Mr. Mayer was booked into the jail. He was assigned to the medical housing unit, which was designed for people who, like him, have serious medical conditions. His podmates in the eight-man pod called him “Twitch” in reference to his pronounced tremors.

10. Each day, Mr. Mayer received certain medication from a nurse to treat his condition (though the County did not provide him with all of his prescribed medications). Mr. Mayer had established a rapport with most of the medical staff and with corrections officer Shaw who was typically assigned to the unit.

11. On October 16, 2018, during the second pill call, corrections officer Darriell Hayes was assigned to substitute for Shaw. Defendant Hayes displayed a callous disregard for the well-being of those housed in the medical unit. Before the attack on Mr. Mayer, Defendant Hayes prevented a disabled inmate from stepping out of the cell, hollering: “I don’t care about medical issues. I’m treating this like a regular pod. I’ll still put you on the ground.”

12. Defendant Hayes accompanied Nurse Heather Johnson in her routine distribution of medicine. Her first stop was Mr. Mayer’s cell. He stepped out of his cell to get his medicine.

13. Because of Mr. Mayer’s medical condition, nurses must hold his hand still to dispense his medication.

14. As Nurse Johnson placed the medicine in Mr. Mayer’s hand, it twitched slightly. Defendant Hayes grabbed Mr. Mayer from behind by the neck and squeezed hard. This aggression triggered an intense muscle spasm. His pills went flying. Defendant Hayes, with one hand still gripping Mr. Mayer’s neck, slammed his opposite elbow into Mr. Mayer’s back while yanking back on his neck. The spasms continued as Defendant Hayes continued to manhandle Mr. Mayer, squeezing his neck hard.

15. Nurse Johnson eventually told Defendant Hayes to let Mr. Mayer go and explained his condition. Defendant Hayes did not immediately release Mr. Mayer despite what the nurse explained. Defendant Hayes replied, “I’m not used to this, I’m used to choking people out when things like this happen.” Defendant Hayes eventually released Mr. Mayer.

16.

17. Even after releasing Mr. Mayer's neck, Defendant Hayes continued to torment him, insisting on performing multiple mouth-checks (where an officer observes the inside of a patient's mouth to confirm that he swallowed his pills) while Mr. Mayer, shaken from the attack, twitched erratically. Defendant Hayes did not relent until Nurse Johnson told him that was enough and to leave Mr. Mayer alone. He returned to the safety of his cell and another man went out to get his medicine from the nurse. Outside the cell, Mr. Mayer could hear Defendant Hayes continuing to run his mouth about how he was used to "laying people out" and otherwise carrying on for the nurse as she attended to other patients.

18. After Defendant Hayes's attack on him, Mr. Mayer experienced pain and discomfort. Though he initially retained his walk, his physical condition deteriorated progressively. Over the coming days, he experienced tingling and intermittent loss of mobility on his body, which at times manifested as near-total paralysis requiring the use of a wheelchair (such as when he collapsed in his cell two days after the attack and for an extended period thereafter). He continues to experience the effects of Defendant Hayes's brutalization and still requires the use of a walker for mobility for persistent left-sided weakness and loss of muscle control. Mr. Mayer's twitching has increased since the attack.

19. Upon the dispatch of medical emergency personnel following Mr. Mayer's collapse, a Special Response Team officer's body-worn camera footage showed another officer—Toney—directing the SRT officer to turn off his body-worn camera. The officer complied and cut short the recording of Mr. Mayer's agony on that day.

**The County lets Hayes get away with hurting Mr. Mayer.**

20. Mr. Mayer swiftly filed an internal grievance against Defendant Hayes. He later alerted the United States Marshals Service review team to the attack.

21. Sergeant S. Boardman interviewed Mr. Mayer, Donald Tate, Michael Collins, and Nurse Johnson. Mr. Tate and Mr. Collins confirmed that Defendant Hayes had grabbed Mayer's neck and did not appear to be trying to support him, and confirmed that Defendant Hayes had said that he was used to choking people out. Nurse Johnson confirmed that Defendant Hayes had made physical contact with Mr. Mayer and that he had said he was used to "laying people out."

22. Sergeant Boardman conducted an investigatory interview of Hayes on October 18, 2018, which was two days after the attack.

23. During the interview, Defendant Hayes claimed that he did not remember Mr. Mayer at all. Even when shown Mr. Mayer's picture, Defendant Hayes insisted that he had "no recollection" of him.

24. When asked about "anything out of the ordinary at the medication cart," Defendant Hayes suddenly recalled that there was a man "shaking profusely." He admitted that he "grabbed" Mr. Mayer but claimed it was "to secure him from falling" because he thought Mr. Mayer was "having a seizure [*sic*] while standing." Defendant Hayes admitted that he "didn't think he [Mayer] was doing anything wrong" and that "the Nurse said he shakes."

25. Defendant Hayes admitted to physically restraining Mr. Mayer and to failing to notify a supervisor of this use of force.

26. Despite Defendant Hayes's admitted failure to follow its use of force policy, Defendant Cuyahoga County did nothing for months.

27. Over two months later, on December 20, 2018, Defendant Hayes was issued a notice of pre-disciplinary conference for violating these Sheriff's Department rules:

- a. Rule #20 ("failing to submit a thorough and complete incident report when circumstances warrant, or when instructed to do so by a supervisor or a superior officer");
- b. Rule #27 ("willful failure to perform any routine job duty"); and

- c. Rule #81 (“unnecessary physical contact with a jail inmate or prisoner in custody.”)

28. Despite identifying multiple obvious rule violations Defendant Hayes committed in attacking Mr. Mayer and failing to document the use of force, the County failed to discipline Defendant Hayes for using unjustified force against Mr. Mayer, or for failing to report the use of force as required by the County’s written policies, or for causing Mr. Mayer such traumatic injury.

29. The County has thus blessed Defendant Hayes’s abuse of Mr. Mayer.

**The County knew that Defendant Hayes was a problem employee who was “harsh” and “threatening” with those in custody, but nevertheless assigned him to contact positions in the jail including in the specialized medical unit.**

30. Defendant Hayes was hired in 2013 as a corrections officer.

31. When applying for his position, Defendant Hayes touted his “martial arts” training.

32. During his employment, his performance evaluations mention these shortcomings:

- a. “Officer Hayes needs to understand that he could not beat everyone in his housing unit.”
- b. being “harsh” with inmates and “talking down to them”
- c. “Have had many talks with officer about how he talks to inmates. At times can have a threatening tone with his inmates.”
- d. “[a]t times his judgment has not been the best”
- e. “Needs work in ... communicating with inmates”
- f. “run ins with inmates”
- g. “problems with some of his co-workers” including “verbal alteractions with Officer Kidd”
- h. “establish better communcations with the inmates housed in your area, communications involves listening and reasoning”
- i. “needs work on communicating with inmates. Also needs work on staying professional at all times. This officer needs to understand how his views he post[s]

or state[s] on social media can be taken as views of the Sheriff[']s Department. Needs to stop placing his feet on the desk.”

- j. “needs more supervision”
- k. “Officer Hayes has at times not been professional when communicating with inmate using N word far to[o] much.”<sup>1</sup>
- l. “Needs work on commuication skills with inmates.”
- m. “Needs to work on maintaing his professional attitude when dealing with inmates...”

33. Beyond these negative reviews, Defendant Hayes’s personnel records are littered with disciplinary infractions, including eight formal actions—averaging more than one for each of his years employed at the jail.

34. On December 13, 2013, Hayes received a written reprimand for repeated tardiness (five times in a single month).

35. On March 18, 2014, Hayes was issued an unpaid suspension for falling asleep on duty.

36. On February 6, 2015, Hayes received a verbal reprimand for referring to one of the med-cart nurses as “the pregnant bitch.”

37. On March 14, 2016, Defendant Hayes received a written reprimand for excessive absence from work.

38. On April 27, 2016, Defendant Hayes received a five-day unpaid suspension for violating Rule 106 (“Giving or permitting any special treatment or favors to inmates or prisoners without the specific approval of the Sheriff”).

39. On March 3, 2018, Defendant Hayes was issued a verbal reprimand for failing to attend mandatory roll call.

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<sup>1</sup> Despite this sentence’s contrary implication about attitudes in the Sheriff’s department and jail, there is no appropriate number of times to use the n-word at work (or anywhere else).



40. On August 6, 2018, he received a “working suspension” for repeated tardiness (four separate instances in the previous month).

41. On January 10, 2019, Defendant Hayes was issued a written reprimand after Associate Warden Kevin O’Donnell caught Hayes sleeping on duty. Hayes asserted that he had “surcome [*sic*] to heat exhostion [*sic*].” He attributed his lack of consciousness to the “extreme heat,” “no ventilation,” and what he described as “environmental extremes” of both extreme hot and cold.

42. Defendant Hayes’s disdain and contempt for those incarcerated is demonstrated on his public Facebook profile where he has called incarcerated citizens “monsters,” commented “you see why I always say I hate inmates fuck seeing the good in people nope not my black ass,” posted a meme that proclaimed “I WILL NOW REFER TO PEPPER SPRAY AS PEOPLE SEASONING IN MY REPORTS,” called himself “the only normal person among a group of idiotic retards,” said “I ain’t no c/o ima hustla just so happens I know how to be a c/o,” declared “ninety[-]five percent of me is a straight asshole savage unrelenting beast that won’t stop until your head is on a platinum platter,” announced “I’d rather start from the ashes of the shit I’m abt [*sic*] to burn down,” posted images glorifying drug use, expressed positive views about a man who killed his cellmate, and posted anti-gay statements.

43. Throughout his employment, Defendant Hayes displayed a general failure to meet expressed performance expectations or adjust his conduct based on documented criticism. But the County didn’t care that he was an inhumane and indecent corrections officer and left him in a position to hurt people through his aggressive approach to his job.

44. Despite knowing Defendant Hayes’s unfitness to be a professional corrections officer, the County recklessly left Mr. Mayer (and everyone else) at risk and in harm’s way with Defendant Hayes occupying a position of trust and authority within the facility.

**OTHER INCIDENTS RESULTING FROM THE MALICIOUS, BAD-FAITH, WANTON,  
AND RECKLESS EXERCISE OF DISCRETION AT THE COUNTY JAIL**

45. In addition to the above-described treatment of Mr. Mayer, other corrections staff, as part of a custom, policy, pattern, and practice, have perpetrated many additional unprovoked and unwarranted acts of violence on the people incarcerated in the jail along with other constitutional-rights violations. Some of those acts are described in the following paragraphs.

46. Also detailed are various instances where the County has failed to maintain complete and accurate public records documenting the abuse perpetrated by corrections staff through destruction or tampering with public records such as videos depicting abuse.

**A corrections officer smashed Joshua Castleberry's teeth into his  
nose over a dispute about a bologna sandwich.**

47. On February 5, 2018, Joshua Castleberry was in the county jail. Following a dispute over a bologna sandwich, officer John Wilson savagely smashed a handcuffed Mr. Castleberry's face into the floor so violently that his teeth were broken (with one tooth pushed all the way up into his nasal cavity). At least one other officer—Corporal Brandon Honaker—witnessed this attack but did not report it to law enforcement. Corrections staff placed Mr. Castleberry in a restraint chair and jammed a mask over his broken face to conceal the assault from medical staff.

48. At the time, Ken Mills was the administrator of the jail. (Mills has since resigned and been indicted based on his jail-related conduct.) His officers refused to let nursing staff remove the mask to assess Mr. Castleberry's injuries, but a night nurse saw Mr. Castleberry and requested medical evaluation. The security supervisor refused, saying: "He wants to try and hit one of my officers — he can sit the fuck there for hours."

49. The night nurse called the nursing supervisor — Gary Brack, R.N. — at home, reporting a serious medical emergency. Nurse Brack called the staff sergeant in charge and demanded a medical evaluation, but the Defendant County waited another half-hour before transporting Mr.

Castleberry to medical. The mask was lifted, EMS was called, and Mr. Castleberry was transported to the hospital for surgery to remove the tooth from his nasal cavity and reconstruct his face.

50. The next day at the monthly sheriff's meeting, Mills covered up the abuse. When asked about the incident, Mills stated: "I reviewed the situation and the officers used appropriate force to the threat of what the incarcerated citizen was using." Medical Director Dr. Thomas Tallman asked to view the security footage, but Mills refused, saying: "I already reviewed it — nothing was done wrong." (Dr. Tallman has since been removed as the jail's medical director.)

51. Former Sheriff Clifford Pinkney stated that he would follow up with the incident, but when he went to review the footage, the security and body-camera footage had somehow "disappeared."

52. Wilson was indicted for felonious assault in the second degree and misdemeanor charges of interfering with civil rights and unlawful restraint. Corporal Jason Jozwiak was charged with unlawful restraint and interfering with civil rights related to denying Mr. Castleberry medical care. Jozwiak was acquitted but the result was a hung jury on the charges against Wilson for felonious assault and interfering with civil rights. The Ohio Attorney General's Office has announced that it will retry Wilson.

53. During the trial, FBI agent Dennis Timony testified that his investigation revealed evidence that jail videos had been tampered with through deletion and other means. That explains why there was no video of Wilson attacking Mr. Castleberry for the sheriff to review or the jury in the criminal case to see. And it reveals serious flaws in the County's security and records-management protocols.

54. No one was held accountable for what happened to Mr. Castleberry.

55. The treatment this individual endured is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of using excessive force as a punitive measure and otherwise victimizing and abusing the individuals detained there.

56. The failure to preserve the video evidence of this abuse is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of destroying public records that document the abuse corrections staff are perpetrating at the jail.

**Corrections officers emptied a can of pepper spray in Chantelle Glass's face while she was confined in a restraint chair, and failed to decontaminate her to prolong her agony.**

57. Chantelle Glass was booked into the county jail on July 16, 2018 after police discovered a warrant stemming from an outstanding traffic ticket.

58. Ms. Glass requested a phone call so that she could inform her family of her arrest, and contact an attorney. The guards repeatedly refused Ms. Glass's request even though anyone who watches *Law & Order* knows that everyone under arrest is entitled to a phone call.

59. When Ms. Glass persisted in her request after being placed in a holding cell, corrections officers threatened that if she did not stop, they would tie her down and "mace" her. Ms. Glass continued to request her phone call, and officers called Corporal Idris-Farid Clark, a supervisory officer.

60. Corrections officer Robert Marsh retrieved a restraint chair. Video surveillance shows Clark remove his can of pepper spray from his tactical vest, shake it, and return it to his vest pocket before Ms. Glass was even brought out of her cell.

61. Ms. Glass cooperated as officers escorted her out of her cell in handcuffs, and strapped her into a restraint chair. As Marsh continued tightening the restraints, Clark again took out his pepper spray and again shook the canister.

62. When Marsh reached between Ms. Glass's knees, she instinctually drew her legs together out of fear. She made no other movements. Ms. Glass—strapped into the restraint chair—could not pose any threat to the officers.

63. Rather than step back when Ms. Glass flinched, Marsh stepped towards Ms. Glass and punched her in the head. She flailed in her restraints, trying in vain to protect herself.

64. Corporal Clark then stepped towards Ms. Glass to make good on his colleague's threat to "mace" Ms. Glass. He emptied an entire canister of pepper spray onto Ms. Glass's face. Ms. Glass tried to turn her head to avoid the spray, but Mr. Clark grabbed her hair to hold her head still while deploying the pepper spray inches from her eyes.

65. When the attack concluded, Ms. Glass asked Clark: "Why did you mace me?" He responded: "Because you talk too much."

66. Rather than providing Ms. Glass with prompt and adequate medical care, the officers wheeled her to a utility closet. Minutes passed before officers began "decontamination" by thrice spritzing Ms. Glass's face and the top of her head with water. This did not effectively decontaminate Ms. Glass (nor was it intended to). Pepper spray still covered her face, neck, and chest after the "decontamination" concluded.

67. Clark then wheeled Ms. Glass to the medical unit. Having access to medical personnel did not improve matters given the medical staff's participation in the corrections officers' deliberate indifference to and apparent enjoyment of Ms. Glass's agony. The sole "medical care" provided by Nurse Diane Lessmann was dabbing Ms. Glass's eyes with one piece of gauze. This nurse did not explain to Ms. Glass what was happening to her and did not display any compassion for her pain.

68. When Ms. Glass left the medical unit, pepper spray was still visible on her face, neck, and chest. Ms. Glass was placed alone in an isolation cell still restrained and covered in pepper spray

for over two hours, and denied access to food, water, and the opportunity to use the restroom facilities.

69. For her entire 48-hour stay in the jail, corrections staff denied Ms. Glass's requests to shower.

70. For her entire 48-hour stay in the jail, Ms. Glass remained in the same clothing contaminated with pepper spray and urine.

71. Ms. Glass was released on July 18, 2018 after New Jersey officials confirmed that they did not want her extradited on the old warrant.

72. Ms. Glass has requested public-records video footage of her incarceration, but the County has not provided all footage that should exist, including any body-worn camera footage during the assault/pepper spray incident, or any videos of her intake at the jail, or any videos of her return to her cell after being released from the restraint chair, or any videos of her exit from her cell and being processed out and released.

73. The treatment this individual endured is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of using excessive force as a punitive measure and otherwise victimizing and abusing the individuals detained there.

74. The failure to preserve the video evidence of this abuse is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of destroying public records documenting the abuse corrections staff are perpetrating at the jail.

**Blanche Hill endured a 12-hour confinement to a restraint chair with no restroom access.**

75. Also in July 2018, Blanche Hill was booked into the county jail.

76. Without any legitimate reason to do so, jail staff confined Ms. Hill to a restraint chair for many hours and denied her food, water, and the opportunity to use the restroom facilities.

77. The jail held no one accountable.

78. Ms. Hill requested video footage of her ordeal. Other than a single 32-second snippet from a body-worn camera (showing her already confined to the restraint chair), the jail has produced no video—from wall-mounted surveillance or body-worn cameras—documenting what she endured or why she was restrained at all.

79. The treatment this individual endured is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of using excessive force as a punitive measure and otherwise victimizing and abusing the individuals detained there.

80. The failure to preserve the video evidence of this abuse is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of destroying public records documenting the abuse corrections staff are perpetrating at the jail.

**A corrections officer choked and dragged Tyrone Hipps, Jr. because he complained about being denied the opportunity to pray.**

81. Tyrone Hipps, Jr. was booked into the county jail on June 22, 2018. He informed the officers that he is a Muslim and requested a no-pork diet.

82. Practicing Muslims must pray five times per day, facing east toward the holy city of Mecca.

83. On November 3, 2018, Mr. Hipps was preparing to pray at the eastern end of his dormitory when Officer Christopher Perdue approached Mr. Hipps and told him to go to his bed area. Mr. Hipps explained that he was about to pray. Perdue said: "Pray by your bed." Mr. Hipps explained that praying by his bed was improper because he is required to pray facing the east with no one walking in front of him. Perdue then told Mr. Hipps to go pray in the day area. Mr. Hipps explained that praying in the day area would also be improper because people would

still be in front of him while he was praying. Mr. Hipps tried to explain the importance of observing proper prayer protocols.

84. In response to Mr. Hipps's explication of his religious custom, Perdue threatened to send Mr. Hipps to the hole. Mr. Hipps asked Perdue to get the corporal to resolve the issue. Perdue left, returned a few seconds later (without the corporal), and threatened: "I'm going to give you three chances to move, if you don't move by the third, I'm going to move you myself."

85. Mr. Hipps complied with Perdue's command, picked up his prayer rug, and walked towards his bunk. He said: "This is my religion. I could sue you for this." Perdue responded: "I'll give you something to sue for." Perdue then grabbed Mr. Hipps and put him in a chokehold. Perdue dragged Mr. Hipps to the front of the pod, threw him on his face, and told him to stop resisting.

86. Another officer had to physically remove Perdue from Mr. Hipps.

87. Despite having done nothing wrong, Mr. Hipps spent the next five days in the hole.

88. He remained in the hole for two days after an investigator visited Mr. Hipps in the hole and confirmed that the video showed he had done nothing wrong.

89. Despite Perdue's vicious attack on Mr. Hipps, jail administration did not place Perdue on leave or even separate Perdue from Mr. Hipps. Perdue constantly taunted Mr. Hipps when he returned from the hole.

90. No one has been held accountable for attacking Mr. Hipps.

91. The video evidence of this attack that the County has provided in response to public-records requests by media and others excludes footage of part of the attack. The County can provide no explanation for this apparent tampering.



92. The treatment this individual endured is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of using excessive force as a punitive measure and otherwise victimizing and abusing the individuals detained there.

93. The failure to preserve the video evidence of this abuse is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of destroying public records documenting the abuse corrections staff are perpetrating at the jail.

**A corrections officer brutally attacked Corrienne Lawrence without provocation, used racial slurs, and threatened to kill him and “make it look like a suicide.”**

94. On September 16, 2018, Corionne Lawrence was booked into the jail. He spent approximately four hours confined in a restraint chair as a punishment for speaking Spanish during the booking process. The responsible corrections officer failed to prepare and submit the required report documenting this use of the restraint chair.

95. Before being assigned to a pod, Mr. Lawrence alerted corrections staff that he had to be kept separate from Stacy Norris, who was in the jail on charges that he murdered Mr. Lawrence's cousin.

96. Though initially housing them separately, the jail relocated Mr. Lawrence to Mr. Norris's pod approximately one month later. As Mr. Lawrence was brought in to his new pod, Mr. Norris threatened Mr. Lawrence in the presence of corrections officers. Corrections staff then allowed Mr. Norris to attack Mr. Lawrence in his cell.

97. Mr. Lawrence sustained no visible injuries in the Norris attack, but was taken to medical per protocol and was then released from medical.

98. While Corporal Christopher Little escorted a handcuffed Mr. Lawrence from the infirmary to his new cell in disciplinary isolation, Little told Mr. Lawrence to step to the back of the elevator and face the wall. Mr. Lawrence complied and Little stated: “Let's play a game.”

Little then repeatedly punched Mr. Lawrence in the side of his face, punched and kicked him while he was on the floor, called him a “n\*\*\*\*\*,” and threatened him if he did not keep his mouth shut.

99. Mr. Lawrence asked another employee, Brandon Smith, if he could go to the nurse and Smith laughed in Mr. Lawrence’s face.

100. While still in isolation, a corrections officer threatened to mace Mr. Lawrence and told him “N\*\*\*\*\* I will kill you, hang you, and make it look like a suicide” when Mr. Lawrence asked for a shower. Over the past year, at least nine people incarcerated in the jail died, including as a result of apparent suicide by hanging.

101. Mr. Lawrence spent 12 days in isolation. Mr. Lawrence was interviewed repeatedly by the United States Marshals Service. During his interview, Mr. Lawrence revealed to the Marshals that he had been assaulted by and threatened by Little.

102. Smith escorted Mr. Lawrence from the interview and said: “Why you snitching? You a snitch now. Trying to get my boy indicted.”

103. The Marshals Service eventually demanded that the County transfer Mr. Lawrence and others out of the jail given the threats by SRT staff. Mr. Lawrence was taken to Geauga County jail for his own protection.

104. No one has been held accountable for attacking or threatening Mr. Lawrence.

105. Despite his request for surveillance or body-worn camera footage of Corporal Little assaulting him in the elevator, Cuyahoga County has produced none (despite Corporal Little’s insistence that Corporal Honaker’s body-worn camera was activated).

106. The treatment this individual endured is consistent with the jail’s custom, policy, pattern, and practice of using excessive force as a punitive measure and otherwise victimizing and abusing the individuals detained there.

107. The failure to preserve the video evidence of this abuse is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of destroying public records documenting the abuse corrections staff are perpetrating at the jail.

**Jail staff beat and pepper sprayed Joseph Sawyer in his wheelchair  
for no reason.**

108. In October 2018, Joseph Sawyer was booked into the jail. Mr. Sawyer was confined to a wheelchair due to a degenerative bone condition. Without any legitimate reason to do so, jail staff punched Mr. Sawyer in the face, pepper sprayed him, and strapped him into a restraint chair.

109. Jail staff failed to effectively decontaminate Mr. Sawyer from the pepper spray and refused to permit him to shower or change clothes for more than a week. Jail staff also denied him the use of a wheelchair.

110. The jail held no one accountable.

111. Mr. Sawyer asked the County to provide the video of the attack, but the County has provided nothing, claiming that no video records exist of Mr. Sawyer on the day of the attack.

112. The treatment this individual endured is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of using excessive force as a punitive measure and otherwise victimizing and abusing the individuals detained there.

113. The failure to preserve the video evidence of this abuse is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of destroying public records documenting the abuse corrections staff are perpetrating at the jail.

**Corrections officer Brandon Smith violently shoved Timothy Bennett while he was receiving an injection from medical staff.**

114. On approximately November 1, 2018, corrections officer Brandon Smith attacked Timothy Bennett as he was receiving an injection from medical staff at the diabetic cart, pushing Mr. Bennett while the needle was inserted in his back.

115. On information and belief, Smith was actually written up for this violent outburst. Compared with the many, many times that corrections staff imposed punitive violence with no consequence, the isolated write up of Smith was an anomaly.

116. On information and belief, this stray instance of showing mild displeasure at an SRT officer hurting someone in custody was motivated by either the presence of medical staff during the incident or the ongoing federal investigation—about which Smith was furious.

117. The jail's own investigation into Smith's use of force against Mr. Bennett confirmed that just before Smith put his hands on Mr. Bennett at the diabetic cart that morning, Smith had called Mr. Bennett a "snitch" for speaking to federal investigators about jail conditions. Jail nurse Gwendolyn Bremer confirmed that Smith called Mr. Bennett a "snitch."

118. The treatment this individual endured is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of using excessive force as a punitive measure and otherwise victimizing and abusing the individuals detained there.

**Corrections officer Charles Enoch attacked an inmate for singing.**

119. In November 2018, corrections officer Charles Enoch used excessive and entirely unnecessary force against an inmate, pushing and punching him before putting him in a chokehold and finally into a restraint chair. The inmate suffered a broken wrist. Enoch attacked the inmate because he was singing.

120. The treatment this individual endured is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of using excessive force as a punitive measure and otherwise victimizing and abusing the individuals detained there.

**Jail staff restrained, beat, and pepper sprayed Antoine Blackshear without legitimate reason to do so.**

121. In December 2018, without any legitimate reason to do so, jail staff confined Antoine Blackshear to a restraint chair, beat him, and pepper sprayed him.

122. Jail staff failed to adequately decontaminate Mr. Blackshear before releasing him.

123. The jail held no one accountable.

124. The jail has provided no video evidence of this attack.

125. The treatment this individual endured is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of using excessive force as a punitive measure and otherwise victimizing and abusing the individuals detained there.

126. The failure to preserve the video evidence of this abuse is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of destroying public records documenting the abuse corrections staff are perpetrating at the jail.

**A corrections officer pepper sprayed and restrained Margaret Jackintell because she objected to his verbal abuse of other inmates.**

127. Margaret Jackintell is a 57-year old Navy veteran. She was booked into the county jail in December 2018.

128. While incarcerated, she observed a corrections officer verbally abusing other incarcerated women. She voiced her disagreement with the way he was addressing them. Corrections staff responded savagely, tackling her to the ground and triggering an anxiety attack. A guard saturated her with pepper spray before strapping her into a restraint chair.

129. Jail staff left Ms. Jackintell in the restraint chair, covered in pepper spray, for approximately 12 hours. During that time she was denied food, water, or the opportunity to use the restroom facilities.

130. For days after she was released from the chair, corrections staff refused to allow her to shower or clean herself.

131. After she endured this abuse, a supervisor named Bitterman repeatedly came to her cell to taunt her saying, e.g., “You’re no fucking kind of veteran, you fucking bitch! I don’t believe you’re a veteran.”

132. The jail held no one accountable.

133. Ms. Jackintell asked the County to provide the video of the attack, but the County has provided none.

134. The treatment this individual endured is consistent with the jail’s custom, policy, pattern, and practice of using excessive force as a punitive measure and otherwise victimizing and abusing the individuals detained there.

135. The failure to preserve the video evidence of this abuse is consistent with the jail’s custom, policy, pattern, and practice of destroying public records documenting the abuse corrections staff are perpetrating at the jail.

**A corrections officer emptied a can of pepper foam into Daniel Ford, Jr.’s face and rubbed it into his eyes.**

136. In December 2018, Daniel Ford, Jr. was booked into the jail. Mr. Ford suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder. Corrections staff refused to provide his mental-health medication.

137. Mr. Ford was attacked by another inmate and put into administrative segregation.

138. Corrections officers left him in a cell with blood, feces, and urine in it without clothing or sheets.

139. When Mr. Ford begged corrections officers to let him clean the cell or give him a blanket, they refused.

140. Staff eventually brought Mr. Ford clothing when they came to confine him to a restraint chair. While restrained, the staff emptied a can of pepper spray in his face.

141. After emptying an entire can of pepper spray in his face, one of the corrections officers literally rubbed it into Mr. Ford's skin, using his gloves to smear the pepper spray around Mr. Ford's face and into his eyes.

142. Corrections staff did not properly decontaminate Mr. Ford, leaving him covered in pepper-spray residue.

143. Mr. Ford requested video of these events, but Cuyahoga County has provided nothing.

144. The treatment this individual endured is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of using excessive force as a punitive measure and otherwise victimizing and abusing the individuals detained there.

145. The failure to preserve the video evidence of this abuse is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of destroying public records documenting the abuse corrections staff are perpetrating at the jail.

**Corrections officers beat Terrence Debose while he was strapped into a restraint chair.**

146. On March 22, 2019, a corrections officer strapped Terrence Debose in a restraint chair in a small cell. Mr. Debose suffers from mental illness.

147. While Mr. Debose was restrained, Corporal Nicholas Evans turned off his body-worn camera and repeatedly punched Mr. Debose in the face. Another corrections officer, Timothy Dugan, entered the room and joined in the abuse, punching Mr. Debose twice in the face.

148. As a result of the attack, Mr. Debose suffered a concussion.

149. Evans was indicted for felonious assault and Dugan was indicted for misdemeanor assault.

150. The jail held no one accountable.

151. The treatment this individual endured is consistent with the jail's custom, policy, pattern, and practice of using excessive force as a punitive measure and otherwise victimizing and abusing the individuals detained there.

152. On information and belief, there are incidents of excessive force and abuse by corrections officers—including retaliatory and punitive use of force, restraints, and pepper spray—in addition to those listed above.

153. The County has a custom, policy, pattern, and practice of failing to use body-worn cameras to document incidents at the jail. Former warden Eric Ivey was indicted and pleaded guilty on charges stemming from his direction to corrections staff not to film certain incidents or encounters because the video could help people pursue civil lawsuits against the County.

154. The County has a custom, policy, pattern, and practice of failing to preserve and maintain public records as required by law and consistent with the applicable records-retention schedule. The County allows for auto-deletion and overwriting of public records in violation of the applicable records-retention schedule.

155. In October 2019, Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost launched a criminal investigation into missing county records in the County's Sharepoint system, which is a document-sharing and storage platform. Certain documents previously known to be in that system have since been deleted, precluding review and examination of metadata that would reveal which employees accessed or otherwise interacted with records. The County defied a court order from Judge Patricia Cosgrove in failing to preserve the records. The County also failed to preserve the records as required by the applicable records-retention schedule.



**CLAIM 1**  
**FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT VIOLATION UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 1983 FOR A**  
**CUSTOM, POLICY, PATTERN, OR PRACTICE TOLERATING THE USE OF**  
**EXCESSIVE FORCE (AGAINST DEFENDANT CUYAHOGA COUNTY)**

156. Plaintiff incorporates all previous allegations.

157. Defendant Cuyahoga County permits, tolerates, and is deliberately indifferent to a pattern and practice of excessive force by its corrections officers at the jail. This widespread tolerance of excessive force by corrections officers constitutes a county policy, practice, pattern, or custom, and led to Mr. Mayer being attacked by Defendant Hayes for no reason.

158. Defendant Hayes and his coworkers' behavior is part of a recurring pattern of excessive force used on the people in custody at the county jail.

159. Corrections personnel failed to take basic, appropriate steps to protect Mr. Mayer from violence or to intervene when he was subjected to it.

160. Cuyahoga County's customs, policies, patterns, and practices have created a toxic culture that has desensitized its corrections personnel to brutal, sadistic violence at the jail because that violence is something wholly unremarkable. Corrections officers' savage and casual resort to violence is an ordinary aspect of jail culture that those incarcerated have learned to expect and that those responsible for overseeing the jail staff have fostered and tolerated.

161. Based on previous instances of unjustified use of excessive force (some of which are described above), Defendant Cuyahoga County had notice of a pattern of constitutionally offensive acts by its corrections officers, but failed to take any remedial steps in response to the notice.

162. The culture of the punitive violence cultivated at the county jail was apparent to federal investigators who assessed the facility last year.

163. According to the Quality Assurance Review of the Cuyahoga County Corrections Center, the United States Marshals Service found the following deficiencies related to use of force:

- a. “Review of Use of Force (UOF) incidents determined staff are not utilizing all tools and techniques generally accepted as best practices for UOF teams to ensure staff and detainee safety (i.e., confrontation avoidance, UOF team concept, team briefings and debriefings, removing staff involved at the on-set of the incident from the immediate area, and a review of all UOF incidents by the agency administrator or designee, and medical assessment of all involved). Additionally, video tapes involving UOF are not tagged and labeled as evidence. Written reports are not required from all persons involved in the use of force or any staff who played a role in the incident (i.e., medical, correctional personnel, SRT, etc.)” *Id.* at 35.
- b. “Over 100 detainee/inmate interviews reveal strong and consistent allegation of brutality, UOF punishment, and cruel treatment at the hands of Security Response Team (SRT), whom the detainee/inmates refer to as “The Men in Black,” based on their black para-military uniforms.” *Id.*’
- c. “During the review, review team members observed SRT members verbally abusing and demonstrating aggressive behavior towards detainees/inmates; review of multiple UOF and SRT body-cam video reveal and contain aggressive conduct and behavior as well as abusive, explicit language used by SRT members directed at detainees/inmates.” *Id.*
- d. “SRT members who were escorting detainee/inmates to be interviewed by Facility Review Team members were referring to requested detainee/inmates as “Snitches,” as they escorted them to and from the interview location. The threatening, intimidating and aggressive behavior demonstrated and witnessed by the Facility Review Team resulted in the request to remove up to 10 detainee/inmates from the CCCC, for fear of SRT members retaliation, and the legitimate fear of detainee/inmate safety.” *Id.*

164. By permitting, tolerating, and sanctioning a persistent and widespread policy, practice, pattern, and custom of corrections officers using excessive force against people in custody, under which Mr. Mayer was victimized, Defendant Cuyahoga County deprived Mr. Mayer of rights, remedies, privileges, and immunities guaranteed to every citizen of the United States.

165. In addition to the constant threat of punitive violence, Cuyahoga County’s incarcerated population also lives with deplorable conditions including acute overcrowding, lack of medical

care, inadequate nutrition and hygiene, vermin infestations, and a cascade of other horrific conditions. The jail is a crucible of misery of which the County has been on notice and fully aware for years. In a move calculated to inflict unnecessary suffering on the incarcerated population, jail administration deliberately moved medical screenings from the intake area to avoid having medical personnel observe and evaluate new arrivals in need of medical care including mental-health and substance-abuse treatment. Despite its obligation to maintain minimum standards under Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 5120:1-8 and the Federal Performance-Based Detention Standards of the United States Department of Justice, the County allowed the jail to devolve into abject squalor.

166. In November 2018, a number of county judges wrote to jail administration about poor conditions in the jail. One judge said, “The County’s indifference to the dangers created by failing to meet the needs of a very fragile and volatile prison population must end.” Others blasted the woefully inadequate medical care.

167. The County’s deliberate indifference to the needs of its inmate population and the conditions under which they are forced to survive led directly to the deaths of nine inmates: on June 10, 2018, Theodore Carter died at the jail from complications from cancer; on June 26, 2018, Esteban Parra died at the jail from an overdose; on July 3, 2018, Larry Johnson died at the jail from suicide; on August 28, 2018, Jose Arquillo died at the jail from an overdose (former warden Eric Ivey would later be charged and plead guilty to charges stemming from his direction to a corrections officer to turn off his body camera during this incident); on August 30, 2018, Gregory Fox died at the jail from suicide; on August 31, 2018, Randall Rain died at the jail from suicide; on October 2, 2018, Allen Gomez Roman died at the jail from suicide; on December 30, 2018, Brandon Kiekisz died at the jail from suicide; and on May 10, 2019, Nicholas Colbert died at the jail from suicide.

168. Despite its awareness of the overcrowding, understaffing, lack of adequate medical care, use of excessive force, destruction of video and other evidence, and other misconduct at the jail, Defendant Cuyahoga County has refused to mitigate this disaster.

169. Conditions at the jail remain so atrocious to this day that the corrections officers recently filed to begin the process of changing the union that will represent them in collective-bargaining negotiations with the County. In September 2019, the corrections officers filed with the state to change their union from the Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association to the Fraternal Order of Police. The officers cited involuntary overtime and unsafe working conditions (such as double- and quadruple-podding, leaving a single officer in charge of 100–200 inmates at a time) as some of the concerns prompting the change in their bargaining representative.

170. The State of Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction has also found serious deficiencies with the jail's conditions. Two separate inspections in 2019 revealed a combined 150 violations of state standards.

171. This year, specially appointed assistant Ohio attorneys general have indicted numerous current or former jail employees including the former director of regional corrections, the former warden, as well as supervisors and line corrections officers.

172. Defendant Cuyahoga County tolerated and failed to prevent the incidents of excessive force against numerous incarcerated citizens including, but not limited to, Glenn Mayer, Jr., Corrienne Lawrence, Tyrone Hipps, Jr., Joshua Castleberry, Terrence Debose, Chantelle Glass, Blanche Hill, Antione Blackshear, Joseph Sawyer, Margaret Jackintell, Timothy Bennett, Daniel Ford, Jr., and others.

173. As a direct and proximate result of the Defendant County's unlawful conduct, Mr. Mayer suffered and will continue to suffer economic and non-economic damages for which this

Defendant is liable, including, but not limited to, mental, emotional, and physical pain and suffering.

**CLAIM 2**  
**FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT VIOLATION UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 1983 FOR**  
**DELIBERATE INDIFFERENCE/FAILURE TO TRAIN AND SUPERVISE**  
**CORRECTIONS OFFICERS (AGAINST DEFENDANT CUYAHOGA COUNTY)**

174. Plaintiff incorporates all previous allegations.

175. Defendant Cuyahoga County permits, tolerates, and is deliberately indifferent to its failure to train and supervise corrections officers on how to interact with people in custody, including using force appropriately in a correctional setting.

176. Defendant Cuyahoga County failed to train and supervise its corrections officers on how to use the best use-of-force tactics to ensure the safety of incarcerated citizens. The behavior of Defendant Hayes is consistent with a recurring pattern of how corrections officers interact with people in custody at the jail, due to a lack of training and accountability and a general tolerance for ignoring the humanity of the human beings in the jail and refusing to treat their medical conditions appropriately.

177. Defendant Cuyahoga County had notice of its failure to train and supervise its corrections personnel, which resulted in a pattern of constitutionally offensive acts by its corrections officers. Defendant County failed to take any remedial steps in response to the notice. The County allowed Defendant Hayes—who had a history of disciplinary infractions including infractions for harsh treatment of those in custody and for other unprofessional conduct reflecting his lack of respect for the people under his care—to attack Mr. Mayer while he was receiving medication for his neurological condition.

178. Defendant Hayes behaved this way because it was consistent with Defendant Cuyahoga County's culture of violence and abuse against the people detained in its jail.

179. Given Defendant Hayes's repeated performance deficiencies, the jail should have known he was unfit to serve as a corrections officer, and a particularly unsuitable replacement for a corrections officer assigned to staff the specialized medical-housing unit. Defendant Hayes was woefully unprepared to function as a corrections officer at all, let alone under such circumstances. The County knew Hayes lacked relevant training. The County also knew that its chronic failure to adequately staff the jail while continuously marketing itself to take in more and more incarcerated population from Cleveland and the surrounding communities would lead to predictable disaster. Yet, it failed to take basic steps to mitigate the disaster it created.

180. On information and belief, Defendant Cuyahoga County has, despite notice, tolerated and nurtured its corrections officers' violent and abusive conduct by failing to intervene and prevent abuse. The County was deliberately indifferent to the obligation to train corrections officers on how to behave.

181. For example, Defendant Cuyahoga County tolerated and failed to prevent the incidents of excessive force against numerous incarcerated citizens including, but not limited to, Glenn Mayer, Jr., Corrienne Lawrence, Tyrone Hipps, Jr., Joshua Castleberry, Terrence Debose, Chantelle Glass, Blanche Hill, Antione Blackshear, Joseph Sawyer, Margaret Jackintell, Timothy Bennett, Daniel Ford, Jr., and others.

182. According to the Quality Assurance Review of the Cuyahoga County Corrections Center, the United States Marshals Service found the following training deficiencies:

- a. "Denial of detainees/inmates to perform hygiene, detainees/inmates are not allowed access to showers, telephones and recreation due to CCCC's implementation of a lockdown system known as "Red Zone." The "Red Zone" RHU detainees/inmates management system is used as a means to address insufficient staff and staffing shortages. Detainees/inmates housed in the "Red Zone" RHU are locked down for periods of 27 or more hours in their cells, additionally interviews with detainees/inmates in the "Red Zone" RHU are lockdown, along with inspection of their cells reveal the absence of toothbrushes, toothpaste, toilet paper and denied access to razors or barbering." *Id.* at 4.

- b. “There is no internal quality control plan in place to provide an annual review of CCCC’s operations to ensure compliance to ensure compliance with CCCC’s policies and procedures. CCCC is inspected annually by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections’ Bureau of Adult Detention to determine compliance with the Ohio’s Minimum Standards for Adult Detention Centers. The last inspection was on November 14, 2017; review of the November 14, 2017 previous inspection documentation reveal CCCC’s staff did not comply, address or provide corrective actions for identified deficiencies which included: exceeding rated capacity, lack of natural lighting in housing units, and detainees/inmates not being provided with five hours a week of exercise. A corrective action plan to address the aforementioned identified deficiencies was not provided for review.” *Id.* at 26.
- c. “Sheriff’s Deputies provide transportation and outside escort for detainees/inmates. Therefore, Correctional Officers do not carry firearms, nor do they receive specialized firearms training. Staff authorized to use chemical agents receive required training. A review of management and supervisory staff training files reveal management and supervisory staff receive 40 hours of management and supervisory training during their first year and only 8 hours annually as required by the Ohio Minimum Adult Detention Standards. FPBDS requires management and supervisory staff receive an initial 40 hours training the first year and 24 hours thereafter.” *Id.* at 28-29.
- d. “There is no policy in place requiring notification to the agency of jurisdiction of serious incidents involving detainees/inmates. Additionally, no documentation was provided for review to support the practice of external agency notifications.” *Id.* at 29.
- e. “Interview with staff reveal numerous staff at all levels express concerns for their safety and security due to staffing shortages; concerns were also expressed regarding morale and sense of inability to make changes or voice concerns to leadership or management.” *Id.* at 29.

183. By permitting, tolerating, and sanctioning a persistent and widespread custom, policy, pattern, and practice of deliberate indifference to failing to train and supervise corrections officers not to use excessive force, to provide medical care to people in distress, to permit access to showers and food, and to generally follow its written policies rather than its actual abusive customs, policies, patterns, and practices, Defendant Cuyahoga County deprived Mr. Mayer of rights, remedies, privileges, and immunities guaranteed to every citizen of the United States.

184. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant Cuyahoga County's unlawful conduct, Mr. Mayer suffered and will continue to suffer economic and non-economic damages for which this Defendant is liable, including, but not limited to, mental, emotional, and physical pain and suffering.

**CLAIM 3**  
**FOURTH AMENDMENT USE OF EXCESSIVE FORCE UNDER 42 U.S.C. § 1983**  
**(AGAINST DEFENDANT HAYES)**

185. Plaintiff incorporates all previous allegations.

186. Defendant Hayes purposefully and knowingly used objectively unreasonable force against Mr. Mayer. The above-described use of force was unnecessary, gratuitous, and objectively unreasonable.

187. All the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident cannot be viewed subjectively or objectively to support any use of force, let alone the extreme level of force Defendant Hayes used, or his failure to file a use-of-force report or related documentation.

188. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant Hayes's unlawful and sadistic conduct, Mr. Mayer suffered and will continue to suffer economic and non-economic damages for which this Defendant is liable, including, but not limited to, mental, emotional, and physical pain and suffering.

189. Defendant Hayes's acts were willful, egregious, malicious, and worthy of substantial sanction to punish and deter him and others from engaging in this type of unlawful conduct.

**CLAIM 4**  
**INTENTIONAL TORT—ASSAULT**  
**(AGAINST DEFENDANT HAYES)**

190. Plaintiff incorporates all previous allegations.

191. Defendant Hayes's above-described intentional actions caused Mr. Mayer reasonable apprehension of immediate harmful or offensive contact.



192. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant Hayes's unlawful and sadistic conduct, Mr. Mayer suffered and will continue to suffer economic and non-economic damages for which this Defendant is liable, including, but not limited to, mental, emotional, and physical pain and suffering.

193. Defendant Hayes's acts were willful, egregious, malicious, and worthy of substantial sanction to punish and deter this Defendant and others from engaging in this type of unlawful conduct.

**CLAIM 5**  
**INTENTIONAL TORT—BATTERY**  
**(AGAINST DEFENDANT HAYES)**

194. Plaintiff incorporates all previous allegations.

195. As described above, Defendant Hayes intended to cause a harmful contact with Mr. Mayer and a harmful contact resulted. The offensive contact was unlawful and unwanted.

196. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant Hayes's unlawful and sadistic conduct, Mr. Mayer suffered and will continue to suffer economic and non-economic damages for which this Defendant is liable, including, but not limited to, mental, emotional, and physical pain and suffering.

197. Defendant Hayes's acts were willful, egregious, malicious, and worthy of substantial sanction to punish and deter this Defendant and others from engaging in this type of unlawful conduct.

**CLAIM 6**  
**INTIMIDATION UNDER R.C. 2921.03**  
**(AGAINST DEFENDANT HAYES)**

198. Plaintiff incorporates all previous allegations.

199. Defendant Hayes filed, recorded, failed to file or record, or otherwise used materially false or fraudulent writing with malicious purpose, in bad faith, or in a wanton and reckless manner to

attempt to influence, intimidate, or hinder a public servant or witness in the discharge of that person's duty.

200. As a direct and proximate result of this Defendant's criminal conduct, which showed a spirit of ill-will, hatred, and wanton disregard of Mr. Mayer's rights, Mr. Mayer has suffered and will continue to suffer economic and non-economic damages for which Defendant Hayes is liable, including, but not limited to mental, emotional, and physical pain and suffering, as well as punitive damages.

201. Defendant Hayes's acts were willful, egregious, malicious, and worthy of substantial sanction to punish and deter him and others from engaging in this type of unlawful conduct.

**CLAIM 7**  
**CIVIL LIABILITY FOR CRIMINAL ACTS UNDER R.C. 2907.60**  
**(AGAINST DEFENDANT HAYES)**

202. Plaintiff incorporates all previous allegations.

203. The conduct complained of above constitutes criminal acts on the part of Defendant Hayes. The crimes include, but are not limited to,

- a. felonious assault (R.C. 2903.11(A)(1));
- b. assault (R.C. 2903.13(A));
- c. interfering with civil rights (R.C. 2921.45(A));
- d. unlawful restraint (R.C. 2905.03(A));
- e. intimidation (R.C. 2921.03(A));
- f. dereliction of duty (R.C. 2921.44(C)(2)).

204. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant Hayes's intentional, knowing, and purposeful criminal conduct, which showed a spirit of ill-will, hatred, and wanton disregard of Mr. Mayer's rights, Mr. Mayer has suffered and will continue to suffer economic and non-

economic damages for which Defendant Hayes is liable, including, but not limited to mental, emotional, and physical pain and suffering, as well as punitive damages.

205. Defendant Hayes's acts were willful, egregious, malicious, and worthy of substantial sanction to punish and deter him and others from engaging in this type of unlawful conduct.

**CLAIM 8**  
**RECKLESS HIRING, TRAINING, SUPERVISION, DISCIPLINE, STAFFING, AND**  
**RETENTION (AGAINST DEFENDANT CUYAHOGA COUNTY)**

206. Plaintiff incorporates all previous allegations.

207. Defendant Cuyahoga County failed to exercise due care and acted in a reckless manner in hiring, training, supervising, disciplining, staffing, and retaining Defendant Hayes.

208. Defendant Hayes was unfit for his position and duties.

209. Defendant Cuyahoga County's reckless conduct in this regard proximately caused Mr. Mayer's injuries alleged above.

210. As a direct and proximate result of the misconduct and abuse of authority detailed above, Mr. Mayer sustained the damages alleged above.

**CLAIM 9**  
**DESTRUCTION OF PUBLIC RECORDS UNDER R.C. 149.351**  
**(AGAINST DEFENDANT CUYAHOGA COUNTY)**

211. Plaintiff incorporates all previous allegations.

212. Where Mr. Mayer was standing on October 16, 2018 at the time of the events described above—outside the eight-man cell in the medical unit during the second daily pill call—was within the view of at least two or more mounted surveillance cameras in the medical unit.

213. The video footage from the cameras within the jail are public records documenting the activities of the jail and its officials.

214. Public records may not be removed, destroyed, mutilated, transferred, or otherwise damaged or disposed of except under a records-retention schedule approved by the county

records commission, the state auditor, and the Ohio history connection (formerly the Ohio historical society).

215. As of October 16, 2018 (the day Mr. Mayer was attacked), the County had no records-retention schedule that would permit the destruction of any surveillance or body-worn camera footage documenting the activities at the County jail.

216. As of October 14, 2019 (the day Mr. Mayer filed this complaint), the County has no records-retention schedule that would permit the destruction of any surveillance or body-worn camera footage documenting the activities at the County jail.

217. Under Ohio law, public records may be deleted only in accordance with an approved records-retention schedule.

218. Because the County has no records-retention schedule authorizing the destruction of videos captured at the jail, it is obligated by law to keep those records indefinitely.

219. In response to Mr. Mayer's request for the video footage of Defendant Hayes's attack on Mr. Mayer on October 16, 2018, the County claimed it had no such records.

220. The footage from the various surveillance cameras that captured Defendant Hayes's attack on Mr. Mayer did not magically vanish into thin air. There is no reasonable explanation for why this footage—and the footage of so many other attacks on those in custody—allegedly no longer exists.

221. In the criminal trial over the abuse Joshua Castleberry endured, FBI agent Dennis Timony testified that he found evidence that jail videos had been destroyed.

222. In August 2019, Idris-Farid Clark—who was already under indictment for the felonious assault of Chantelle Glass—was arrested and indicted for extortion of another corrections officer. According to the indictment, Clark offered to delete incriminating video of the other corrections officer's involvement in a use-of-force incident.

223. In October 2019, special assistant attorneys general with the Ohio Attorney General's office discovered that the County had defied the court order and deleted documents regarding a County employee's ongoing corruption case. The deletion of those documents precludes a review and examination of their metadata, which would reveal which County employees accessed the documents.

224. On information and belief, employees at the jail can alter, delete, rename, download, or otherwise destroy or tamper with surveillance and body-camera videos and other public records at the jail.

225. On information and belief, the County destroyed the surveillance footage of Defendant Hayes's attack on Mr. Mayer.

226. Mr. Mayer is aggrieved by the destruction of the video evidence of the assault he suffered. Proving his civil claims will be more challenging without the video depicting precisely what transpired.

227. Mr. Mayer commences this civil action for injunctive relief to compel compliance with R.C. 149.351(A), for his reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in this action, and for the civil forfeiture of \$1,000 per violation for the destruction of the videos depicting the assault.

#### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

For the reasons stated, Mr. Mayer respectfully requests the following relief from the Court:

- A. Declare that Defendants' acts and conduct constitute violations of the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, as well as of 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and state law;
- B. Enter judgment in Mr. Mayer's favor on all claims for relief;
- C. Award full compensatory damages including, but not limited to, damages for pain and suffering, mental anguish, and emotional distress, that Mr. Mayer has suffered and is reasonably certain to suffer in the future;

- D. Award punitive and exemplary damages for the individual Defendants' egregious, willful, and malicious conduct;
- E. Award pre- and post-judgment interest at the highest lawful rate;
- F. Award Mr. Mayer his reasonable attorneys' fees and all other costs of suit;
- G. Enjoin Defendants from perpetrating further unlawful acts such as the ones that injured Mr. Mayer;
- H. Enjoin Defendant Cuyahoga County from any further acts of public-records destruction (including the specific directive to preserve all video footage captured at the jail until further notice);
- I. Award Mr. Mayer \$1,000 per violation of R.C. 149.351(A) for the County's destruction of the videos of Defendant Hayes's attack on Mr. Mayer; and
- J. Award all other relief in law or equity, including injunctive relief, to which Mr. Mayer is entitled and that the Court deems equitable, just, and proper.

**JURY DEMAND**

Mr. Mayer demands a trial by jury on all issues within this complaint.

Respectfully submitted,

THE CHANDRA LAW FIRM LLC

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