

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

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CHRISTOPHER M. SANDERS,

Plaintiff,

v.

DR. SEARS,

Defendant.

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ORDER

11-cv-202-slc

Plaintiff Christopher Sanders is proceeding to trial in this case on his claim that defendant Dr. Sears violated his rights under the Eighth Amendment by exhibiting deliberate indifference to his serious medical needs. He has requested that an attorney be appointed to assist him at trial because he is disabled due to a brain injury. In an order entered on June 21, 2012, I asked Sanders to provide third-party confirmation of the nature and effect of his disability, including a description of the injury does he suffers from, how long he has been disabled and how the disability affects his cognitive ability (or thinking) or ability to present an argument and ask questions in a public environment. Dkt. 80.

Sanders responded by submitting a letter from the Social Security Administration that indicates only that “disability was granted due to diagnosis of amnestic disorder due to head trauma.” Dkt. 81, Exh. 1. Although this confirms that Sanders is disabled, it does not explain what the disability is or how it would affect Sanders’s performance at trial. Sanders explains in a letter to the court that he will ask for his doctor’s assistance in responding to the court at his next appointment, scheduled for July 24, 2012. Dkt. 81.

Without meaning to be unnecessarily strict about this, given the dearth of attorneys available to represent prisoners in their civil lawsuits, the court needs some more information from Sanders to determine whether it is necessary to appoint an attorney in this case. To give

everyone some breathing room, I am striking the trial calendar. Sanders should send a letter to the court explaining in his own words how his disability affects him, including his ability to present an argument and ask questions in a public environment. Sanders has until July 17, 2012 to provide this information to the court. Sanders then should supplement this information with a statement from his doctor following the July 24, 2012 appointment, in which the doctor should provide his/her perspective on Sanders' injury and how it affects his ability to try his own lawsuit in this court. Once the court receives this information, it will rule on Sanders's motion and set a scheduling conference to select a new date for trial.

Entered this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2012.

BY THE COURT:

/s/

STEPHEN L. CROCKER  
Magistrate Judge