

Civil Litigation Panel

- What it is
- My 3 experiences
- Why I would do it again
- FAQs



Civil Litigation Panel: What It Is

- Pro se litigants
- Court appoints pro bono counsel
- Generally prisoner/civil rights cases
 - Survived summary judgment and headed for trial
 - Settlement conference
- Voluntary/you can pick your cases



3 Positive Experiences

1. Settlement conference
2. Trial
3. Mentoring a more junior attorney through trial

Punitive Damages (If Applicable)

We the jury, duly empaneled and sworn in the above entitled action, upon our oaths, having found in favor of Plaintiff, do award Plaintiff the following punitive damages:

Warden MacDonald: \$ 1

Donald Justus: \$ 150

Gary Ralston: \$ 1

Ashlee Pratt: \$ 150

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

Edward Vincent Ray, Jr.,

Plaintiff,

v.

James MacDonald, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:13-cv-00088-GMS

VERDICT FORM

First Amendment

We the jury, duly empaneled and sworn in the above entitled action, upon our oaths, make the following findings as to Plaintiff's First Amendment claim:

As to Warden MacDonald: Liable Not Liable []

As to Donald Justus: Liable Not Liable []

As to Gary Ralston: Liable Not Liable []

Fourteenth Amendment

We the jury, duly empaneled and sworn in the above entitled action, upon our oaths, make the following findings as to Plaintiff's Fourteenth Amendment claim:

As to Warden MacDonald: Liable Not Liable []

As to Donald Justus: Liable Not Liable []

As to Gary Ralston: Liable Not Liable []

As to Ashlee Pratt: Liable Not Liable []

Why I Would Do It Again

- Pro bono is good
- The clients need help (and they are grateful for it)
- The judges need help (and they are grateful for it)
- Jury trial experience!
- “Props” (from supervisors, colleagues, judges)
- Build your career/reputation in the legal community



FAQs

- Do I have to go to prison?
- Do I have to reopen discovery?
- What if I know nothing about civil rights laws/ § 1983?
 - Ninth Circuit Section 1983 Outline
https://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/content/view.php?pk_id=0000000724
 - Ninth Circuit Model Civil Jury Instructions for Civil Rights Actions 42 USC § 1983
<https://www.ce9.uscourts.gov/jury-instructions/node/137>