

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

DEDRICK WILLIAMS, MARQUESSA PAGE :
and CAMILE SMITH, individually and on behalf :
of a Class of others similarly situated, :

Plaintiffs, :

v. :

THE COUNTY OF NIAGARA, THOMAS A. :
BEILEIN, both individually and in his official :
capacity as Sheriff of Niagara County, SAMUAL J. :
MUSCARELLA, JR., both individually and in his :
Official capacity as Undersheriff of Niagara County, :
And JOHN SAXTON, both individually and in :
his official capacity as Superintendent of the :
Niagara County Jail. :

Defendants. :

Civil Action Number 06-CV-0291

**AMENDED CLASS
ACTION COMPLAINT**

**JURY TRIAL
DEMANDED**

INTRODUCTION

This is a class action brought to redress the deprivation by Defendants of rights secured to the Plaintiffs and proposed Class by the United States Constitution and the laws of the United States of America. For at least the past several years, the Niagara County Sheriff's Department has had a policy of strip-searching all individuals who enter the Niagara County Jail and are placed in jail clothing, regardless of the crime upon which they are charged. Upon information and belief, this policy is, in part, derived from the written procedures of the Niagara County Sheriff's Department, and was promulgated by senior Department officials; specifically, Defendants Thomas Beilein, Samuel Muscarella, and John Saxton.

It has been well established in this judicial circuit for many years that individuals charged with misdemeanors or violations cannot be strip-searched absent particularized suspicion that they possess weapons or contraband. In fact, several judges in this Judicial District, as well as the

United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, have recently held that blanket strip search policies/practices like those in dispute in this case are unconstitutional. In short, the policy of Niagara County and the Niagara County Sheriff's Department forcing those charged with minor crimes to undergo the indignities of a strip search upon entry into the Niagara County Jail is not only clearly illegal, but is degrading, insensitive and unnecessary.

Dedrick Williams, Marquessa Page and Camile Smith (together, the "Representative Plaintiffs") bring this action on behalf of themselves, and on behalf of a class of thousands of others who were strip searched after being charged with petty crimes, to vindicate the clear and unnecessary violation of their civil rights and those of the class members they propose to represent. They seek monetary damages for themselves and each member of the proposed class, a declaration that the Sheriff's Department's policies/practices are unconstitutional, and an injunction precluding Niagara County and the Niagara County Sheriff's Department from continuing to violate the rights of those placed into their custody. With this as a background, the Representative Plaintiffs, through counsel, hereby complain as follows:

JURISDICTION

1. This Court has jurisdiction over this action under the provisions of 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1341 & 1343 because it is filed to obtain compensatory damages, punitive damages, and injunctive relief for the deprivation, under color of state law, of the rights of citizens of the United States secured by the Constitution and federal law pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 1981 & 1983. This Court also has jurisdiction over this action under the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 2201, as it is filed to obtain declaratory relief relative to the Constitutionality of the policies of a local government.

2. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(e)(2) because the events giving rise to Plaintiff's claims and those of proposed class members occurred in this judicial district.

PARTIES

3. Plaintiff Dedrick Williams ("Williams") resides in Niagara County, New York. On March 5, 2005, Williams had his bail illegally revoked by Niagara City Court Judge Robert Restaino regarding pending charges for assault in the third degree and endangering the welfare of a child, both misdemeanors.

4. Plaintiff Marquessa Page ("Page") resides in Niagara County, New York. In May and December of 2005, Page was arrested on misdemeanor charges of failure to pay parking tickets and failure to appear in court, respectively.

5. Plaintiff Camile Smith ("Smith") resides in Niagara County, New York. In June 2006, Smith was arrested on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct.

7. Defendant County of Niagara (the "County") is a county government organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York. At all times relevant hereto, the County, acting through its Sheriff's Department, was responsible for the policies, practices, supervision, implementation and conduct of all matters pertaining to the Niagara County Jail and was responsible for the appointment, training, supervision and conduct of all Sheriff's Department personnel, including those working in the Niagara County Jail. In addition, at all relevant times, the County was responsible for enforcing the rules of the Niagara County Jail, and for ensuring that Sheriff's Department personnel employed in the Jail obey the Constitution and laws of the United States and of the State of New York.

8. The Niagara County Sheriff's Department (the "Sheriff's Department") is a

County Sheriff's Department organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York. Although not a legal entity for the purposes of litigation, the Department is listed as a party for the purposes of identification. At all times relevant hereto, the Sheriff's Department was responsible for operating, organizing, overseeing and administering the Niagara County Jail ("NCJ"). At all times relevant hereto, Defendant Sheriff's Department, together with the County of Niagara, was responsible for the policies, practices, supervision, implementation and conduct of all matters pertaining to the NCJ, and was responsible for the appointment, training, supervision and conduct of all Sheriff's Department personnel, including those working in the NCJ. In addition, at all times relevant hereto, Defendant Sheriff's Department, together with the County of Niagara, was responsible for enforcing the rules of the Niagara County Jail, and for ensuring that Sheriff's Department personnel employed in the NCJ obeyed the Constitution and laws of the United States and of the State of New York.

9. Defendant Thomas Beilein ("Sheriff Beilein") is the duly elected Sheriff of Niagara County, and, as such, is a policy maker with respect to the treatment of pre-trial and other detainees over which the NCJ exercises custodial or other control. Sheriff Beilein's principal place of business is 5526 Niagara Street Extension, Lockport, NY 14095. Sheriff Beilein is made a Defendant in this action in both his individual and official capacities.

10. Defendant Samuel Muscarella ("Undersheriff Muscarella") is the duly appointed Undersheriff of Niagara County and, as such, is a policy maker with respect to the treatment of pre-trial and other detainees over which the NCJ exercises custodial or other control. Undersheriff Muscarella's principal place of business is 5526 Niagara Street Extension, Lockport, NY 14095. Undersheriff Muscarella is made a Defendant in this action in both his individual and official capacities.

11. Defendant John Saxton ("Major Saxton") is the duly appointed Major of the Niagara County Sheriff's Department and is the officer in charge of the operation of the Niagara County Jail. As such, Major Saxton is a policy maker with respect to the treatment of pre-trial and other detainees over which the NCJ exercises custodial or other control. Major Saxton's principal place of business is 5526 Niagara Street Extension, Lockport, NY 14095. Major Saxton is made a Defendant in this action in both his individual and official capacities.

12. Collectively, Sheriff Beilein, Undersheriff Muscarella, and Major Saxton will be referred to as the "Policy Making Defendants."

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

13. The Representative Plaintiffs bring this action pursuant to Rules 23(b)(1), 23(b)(2) and 23(b) (3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure on behalf of themselves and a class of similarly situated individuals who were charged with misdemeanors or minor crimes and were strip searched upon their entry into the Niagara County Jail.

14. The class that the Representative Plaintiffs seek to represent is defined as follows:

All persons who have been or will be placed into the custody of the Niagara County Jail after being charged with misdemeanors, violations, violations of probation or parole, traffic infractions, civil commitments or other minor crimes and were or will be strip searched upon their entry into the Niagara County Jail pursuant to the policy, custom and practice of the Niagara County Sheriff's Department and the County of Niagara. The class period commences on May 5, 2003 and extends to the date on which the Niagara County Sheriff's Department and/or the County of Niagara are enjoined from, or otherwise cease, enforcing their unconstitutional policy, practice and custom of conducting strip searches absent reasonable suspicion. Specifically excluded from the class are Defendants and any and all of their respective affiliates, legal representatives, heirs, successors, employees or assignees.

15. This action has been brought and may properly be maintained as a class action under Federal law and satisfies the numerosity, commonality, typicality and adequacy requirements for maintaining a class action under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(a).

16. The members of the class are so numerous as to render joinder impracticable. Upon information and belief, there are hundreds of people arrested for misdemeanors and violations who are placed into the custody of the Niagara County Jail every month - all of whom are members of the proposed class. Upon information and belief, the size of the proposed class totals at least 4,000 individuals, some of whom have had their civil rights violated on multiple occasions.

17. Upon information and belief, joinder of all of these individuals is impracticable because of the large number of class members and the fact that class members are likely dispersed over a large geographical area, with some members presently residing outside of Niagara County and this Judicial District. Furthermore, upon information and belief, many members of the class are low-income persons, may not speak English, and likely would have great difficulty in pursuing their rights individually.

18. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class, in that they all had their right to be free from unreasonable searches violated by Defendants' conducting strip searches absent particularized suspicion. All members of the class were charged with misdemeanors or violations when placed into the custody of the Niagara County Jail, and all were illegally strip searched in violation of the clearly established law in this judicial circuit.

19. The Representative Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the members of the Class. The Representative Plaintiffs and all members of the class sustained damages arising

out of Defendants' course of conduct. The harms suffered by the Representative Plaintiffs are typical of the harms suffered by the class members.

20. The Representative Plaintiffs have the requisite personal interest in the outcome of this action and will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Class. The Representative Plaintiffs have no interests that are adverse to the interests of the members of the Class.

21. Plaintiffs have retained counsel who has substantial experience and success in the prosecution of class action and civil rights litigation. The Representative Plaintiffs are being represented by Elmer Robert Keach, III; Bruce Menken and Jason Rozger of Berenbaum Menken & Ben-Asher, LLP; Gary E. Mason, Alexander E. Barnett and Nicholas Migliaccio of The Mason Law Firm, PLLC; David Gerald Jay of Buffalo, New York, and Jonathan Cuneo and Charles LaDuca of Cuneo Gilbert & LaDuca, LLP. Proposed class counsel has successfully prosecuted several strip search class actions identical to that detailed in this action, and have been found to be adequate class counsel on several occasions by other courts.

26. In short, Plaintiffs' counsel has the resources, expertise and experience to successfully prosecute this action against Niagara County, the Niagara County Sheriffs Department and the Policy Making Defendants. Counsel for Plaintiffs knows of no conflicts among members of the class, or between counsel and members of the class.

27. This action, in part, seeks declaratory and injunctive relief. As such, the Representative Plaintiffs seek class certification under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(2), in that all class members were subject to the same policy requiring the illegal strip searches of individuals charged with misdemeanor or minor crimes and placed into the custody of the Niagara County Jail. In short, the County of Niagara, the Niagara County Sheriffs Department, the Policy Making

Defendants and Niagara County Corrections Officers acted on grounds generally applicable to all class members.

28. In addition to certification under Rule 23(b)(2), and in the alternative, the Representative Plaintiffs seek certification under Rule 23(b)(3).

29. Common questions of law and fact exist as to all members of the Class, and predominate over any questions that affect only individual members of the Class. These common questions of law and fact include, without limitation, the common and predominate question of whether the Defendants' written and/or *de facto* policy/practice of strip searching all individuals charged with misdemeanors or minor crimes and committed to the Niagara County Jail is a violation of the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, and whether such a written and/or *de facto* policy existed during the class period.

30. A class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy, since joinder of all of the individual members of the class is impracticable given the large number of class members and the fact that they are dispersed over a large geographical area. Furthermore, the expense and burden of individual litigation would make it difficult or impossible for individual members of the class to redress the wrongs done to them. The cost to the federal court system of adjudicating thousands of individual cases would be enormous. Individualized litigation would also magnify the delay and expense to all parties and the court system. By contrast, the conduct of this action as a class action in this District presents far fewer management difficulties, conserves the resources of the parties and the court system, and protects the rights of each member of the Class.

31. Upon information and belief, there are no other actions pending to address the Defendants' flagrant violation of the civil rights of thousands of individuals, even though the Defendants have maintained their illegal strip search regimen for the past several years.

32. In the alternative to certification under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(3), the Representative Plaintiffs also seeks partial certification under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(c)(4).

FACTS

Facts Applicable to the Class Generally

33. The Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution prohibits state officials, such as the Policy Making Defendants in this action and the Corrections Officers they supervise, from performing strip searches of arrestees who have been charged with misdemeanors or other minor crimes unless the officer has reasonable suspicion to believe that the arrestee is concealing a weapon or contraband.

34. Upon information and belief, the County of Niagara, the Niagara County Sheriff's Department and the Policy Making Defendants have instituted a written and/or *de facto* policy, custom or practice of strip searching all individuals who enter the custody of the Niagara County Jail (by forcing them to remove their clothing for a visual inspection of their bodies and/or forcing them to submit to a visual inspection of their body cavities) and are placed into jail clothing, regardless of the nature of their charged crime and without the presence of reasonable suspicion to believe that the individual was concealing a weapon or contraband. For purposes of this Complaint, strip and visual cavity searches are collectively referred to as "strip searches."

35. The County of Niagara, the Niagara County Sheriff's Department, and the Policy Making Defendants know that they may not institute, enforce or permit enforcement of a policy

or practice of conducting strip searches without particularized, reasonable suspicion. This judicial circuit has stated repeatedly that state officials may not strip search individuals charged with misdemeanors or violations absent particularized, reasonable suspicion, with this principle being clearly established in 1986 by *Weber v. Dell*, 804 F.2d 796 (2d Cir. 1986) and recently affirmed by *Shain v. Ellison*, 273 F.3d 56 (2d Cir. 2001), *cert. denied sub. nom, Nassau Co. v. Shain*, 537 U.S. 1083 (2002).

36. The Defendants' written and/or *de facto* policy, practice and custom mandating wholesale strip searches of all misdemeanor and violation arrestees has been promulgated, effectuated and/or enforced in bad faith and contrary to clearly established law.

37. Reasonable suspicion to conduct a strip search may only emanate from the particular circumstances antecedent to the search, such as the nature of the crime charged, the particular characteristics of the arrestees, and/or the circumstances of the arrest.

38. Upon information and belief, the County of Niagara, the Niagara County Sheriff's Department and Policy Making Defendants have promulgated, implemented, enforced, and/or failed to rectify a written and/or *de facto* policy, practice or custom of strip searching all individuals placed into the custody of the Niagara County Jail and placed into jail clothing without any requirement of reasonable suspicion, or indeed suspicion of any sort. This written and/or *de facto* policy made the strip searching of pretrial detainees routine; neither the nature of the offense charged, the characteristics of the arrestee, nor the circumstances of a particular arrest were relevant to the enforcement of the policy, practice and custom of routine strip searches.

39. Pursuant to this written and/or *de facto* policy, each member of the Class, including the Representative Plaintiffs, was the victim of a routine strip search upon their entry into the Niagara County Jail. These searches were conducted without inquiry into or

establishment of reasonable suspicion, and in fact were not supported by reasonable suspicion. Strip searches are conducted for individuals arrested for, among other innocuous offenses, Driving While Intoxicated, Harassment and Trespassing.

40. As a direct and proximate result of the unlawful strip search conducted pursuant to this written and/or *de facto* policy, the victims of the unlawful strip searches each member of the class, including the Representative Plaintiffs - have suffered or will suffer psychological pain, humiliation, suffering and mental anguish.

Facts Applicable to Dedrick Williams

41. Dedrick Williams' experience is representative of the class at large. On March 5, 2005, Mr. Williams had his bail revoked on misdemeanor charges of Assault in the Third Degree and Endangering the Welfare of a Child by Niagara City Court Judge Robert Restaino. Mr. Williams was then arrested and placed in the Niagara County Jail until being ordered released a few hours later. The circumstances of Mr. Williams' criminal charges are related to a domestic dispute, and the circumstances of his revocation of bail are that he was one of several individuals ordered illegally jailed by Judge Restaino after a wrist watch (believed to be a cell phone) went off in Judge Restaino's courtroom. In an effort to identify the individual with the cell phone, Judge Restaino proceeded to illegally revoke the bail of several individuals present in his courtroom that day.

42. At approximately 5:00 PM on or about March 5, 2005, Ms. Williams was transported to the Niagara County Jail. A short time later, Mr. Williams was moved into a shower area in the Niagara County Jail and ordered to disrobe. As a Corrections Officer watched, Mr. Williams removed all of his clothing, including his underpants.

43. A Corrections Officer then instructed Mr. Williams lift his testicles, turn around, bend at the waist, spread the lobes of his buttocks and squat while coughing, with the Corrections Officer conducting a visual inspection of Mr. Williams' genitals and rectal cavity. Williams was then provided with a jail uniform after taking a shower.

44. On this particular occasion, there was no reasonable suspicion to believe that Mr. Williams was concealing a weapon or other contraband. Indeed, no inquiry was made of Mr. Williams that could have given rise to the requisite reasonable suspicion.

45. On several other occasions during the class period, Williams was taken to the Niagara County Jail on minor criminal charges (for example, driving without a license) and subject to a strip search identical or nearly identical to that detailed above.

46. As a direct and proximate result of the unlawful strip search conducted pursuant to County and Sheriff's Department policy, practice and custom, Mr. Williams has suffered and continues to suffer psychological pain, humiliation, suffering and mental anguish.

Facts Applicable to Marquessa Page

47. In May 2005, Marquessa Page was arrested at the Niagara Falls Police Station on misdemeanor charges of failing to pay parking tickets. Bail was set at \$500, the amount of the parking tickets, and Ms. Page was taken to the Niagara County Jail.

48. After being placed in a holding cell, a female Corrections Officer took Ms. Page to a shower room where she was strip searched. As part of the search, Ms. Page was required to lift her breasts and "bend over and spread" to allow the Corrections Officer to inspect her genital area.

49. Ms. Page was then required to change into the Jail jumpsuit, also under the supervision of the Corrections Officer.

50. Two days later, her bail was posted and Ms. Page was released from the facility.

51. On or about December 26, 2005, Ms. Page was arrested at the Niagara County Jail while visiting a detainee on misdemeanor charges of failing to appear in court. Ms. Page was transported to the court located in the Niagara Police Department, and after bail was set she was taken back to the County Jail.

52. Ms. Page was strip searched for a second time and in the same manner as followed her May 2005 arrest.

53. Nine days later, Ms. Page was released after paying a fine.

Facts Applicable to Camile Smith

54. In June 2006, Camile Smith was arrested at the Niagara Falls Police Station on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct. Ms. Smith was seven months pregnant at the time.

55. From the Police Station, officers transported Ms. Smith to the Niagara County Jail. As part of the admission process, Ms. Smith was taken to a shower room and required to undress completely so that she could be searched.

56. A Corrections Officer checked Ms. Smith's mouth, ears, and hair. Ms. Smith then had to lift her breasts for inspection and was then ordered to "bend over and spread" so that the Corrections Officer could inspect her genital area. She was then required to change into the Jail jumpsuit in front of a Corrections Officer.

57. Ms. Smith was released several hours later, and the misdemeanor charges were eventually dismissed.

CAUSES OF ACTION

AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

Violation of Constitutional Rights Under Color of State Law

-- Unreasonable Search and Failure to Implement Municipal Policies to Avoid Constitutional Deprivations Under of Color of State Law—

58. The Plaintiffs incorporate by reference and reallege each and every allegation stated in the preceding paragraphs.

59. The Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution protects citizens from unreasonable searches by law enforcement officers, and prohibits officers from conducting strip searches of individuals arrested for misdemeanors or violations absent some particularized suspicion that the individual in question has either contraband or weapons.

60. The actions of Defendants detailed above violated Plaintiffs' rights under the United States Constitution. Simply put, it was not objectively reasonable for Niagara County Corrections Officers to strip search Plaintiffs and class members based on their arrests for misdemeanor/violation charges. It was also not objectively reasonable for the Policy Making Defendants to order/direct Niagara County Corrections Officers to conduct such searches. These strip searches were conducted pursuant to the policy, custom or practice of the County of Niagara and the Niagara County Sheriff's Department. As such, the County of Niagara is directly liable for the damages of the Representative Plaintiffs and members of the Class.

66. Upon information and belief, Sheriff Beilein, Undersheriff Muscarella and Major Saxton are responsible for establishing the policies and procedures to be utilized in the operation of the Niagara County Jail, and are responsible for the implementation of the strip search policy

questioned in this lawsuit. As such, Beilein, Muscarella and Saxton are each individually responsible for the damages of the named Plaintiff and members of the Class.

67. Sheriff Beilein, Undersheriff Muscarella and Major Saxton knew or should have known that Niagara County's strip search policy was illegal, and acted willfully, knowingly, and with specific intent to deprive Plaintiffs and members of the Class of their Constitutional rights.

68. This conduct on the part of all Defendants represents a violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983, given that their actions were undertaken under color of state law.

69. As a direct and proximate result of the unconstitutional acts described above, the Representative Plaintiffs and members of the proposed class have been irreparably injured.

AS AND FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

-- Demand for Declaratory Judgment --

70. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference and reallege each and every allegation stated in the preceding paragraphs.

71. The policy, custom and practice of the Niagara County Sheriffs Department, the County of Niagara and the Policy Making Defendants is clearly unconstitutional, in that these entities and individuals are directing/conducting the strip searches of all individuals placed into the Niagara County Jail without any particularized suspicion that the individuals in question have either contraband or weapons.

73. The Representative Plaintiffs and members of the Class request that this Court issue a declaratory judgment and that it declare the strip search policy of the County of Niagara and the Niagara County Sheriff s Department to be unconstitutional.

AS AND FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

-- Demand for Preliminary and Permanent Injunction --

74. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference and reallege each and every allegation stated in the preceding paragraphs.

75. The policy, custom and practice of the Niagara County Sheriffs Department, the County of Niagara and the Policy Making Defendants is clearly unconstitutional, in that these entities and individuals are directing/conducting the strip searches of all individuals placed into the Niagara County Jail without any particularized suspicion that the individuals in question have either contraband or weapons.

76. Upon information and belief, this policy is currently in place at the Niagara County Jail, with new and/or prospective members of the Class being subjected to the harms that have already been inflicted upon the Representative Plaintiffs.

77. The continuing pattern of strip searching individuals charged with minor crimes will cause irreparable harm to the new and/or prospective members of the Class, an adequate remedy for which does not exist at law.

78. Plaintiffs demand that the County of Niagara, the Niagara County Sheriffs Department, the Policy Making Defendants and Niagara County Corrections Officers immediately desist from strip searching individuals placed into the custody of the Niagara County Jail absent any particularized suspicion that the individuals in question have either contraband or weapons, and seek both a preliminary and permanent injunction from this Court ordering as much.

DEMAND FOR PUNITIVE DAMAGES

79. The actions of the Individual Defendants detailed herein are outrageous, in that they continue to propagate an illegal strip search policy even though they know for a fact that their actions are unconstitutional.

80. It is clear that the Policy Making Defendants, the County of Niagara and the Niagara County Sheriff's Department have no respect for the civil rights of individual citizens or for the rule of law. Consequently, an award of punitive damages is necessary to punish the Policy Making Defendants, and to send a message to them that the requirements of the United States Constitution also apply to government officials in Niagara County.

DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY

81. The Representative Plaintiffs hereby demand a trial by jury.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs Dedrick Williams, Camile Smith and Marquessa Page, on behalf of themselves and on behalf of a class of others similarly situated, request that this Honorable Court grant them the following relief:

- A. An order certifying this action as a class action pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 23.
- B. A judgment against all Defendants, jointly and severally, on Plaintiff's First Cause of Action detailed herein, awarding compensatory damages to each Named Plaintiffs and each member of the proposed class in an amount to be determined by a Jury and/or the Court on both an individual and a class wide basis.
- C. A judgment against Defendant Thomas Beilein on Plaintiff's First Cause of Action for \$1,000,000.00 in punitive damages.
- D. A judgment against Defendant Samuel Muscarella on Plaintiff's First Cause of Action for \$1,000,000.00 in punitive damages.
- E. A judgment against Defendant John Saxton on Plaintiff's First Cause of Action for \$1,000,000.00 in punitive damages.
- F. A declaratory judgment against all Defendants declaring the County of Niagara and the Niagara County Sheriff's Department's policy, practice and custom of strip and visual cavity searching all detainees entering the Niagara County Jail, regardless of the crime charged or suspicion of contraband, to be unconstitutional and improper.
- G. A preliminary and permanent injunction enjoining Defendants from continuing to strip and visual cavity search individuals charged with misdemeanors or minor crimes absent particularized, reasonable suspicion that the arrestee subjected to the search is concealing weapons or other contraband.

H. A monetary award for attorney's fees and the costs of this action, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1988 and Fed.R.Civ.P. 23;

I. Any other relief this Court finds to be just, proper and equitable.

Respectfully submitted by:

/s Elmer Robert Keach, III

Date: April 16, 2007
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