

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY
CIVIL ACTION NO. _____

****ELECTRONICALLY FILED****

REINELLA S. KIRILOVA, as Administratrix of the Estate
of William Allen Young, Jr.

PLAINTIFF

VS.

COMPLAINT

RUSSELL BRAUN, Individually and in the Official
Capacity as a Louisville Metro Police Officer, RANDALL
RICHARDSON, Individually and in the Official
Capacity as a Louisville Metro Police Officer, PAIGE
YOUNG, Individually and as a Member of the Louisville
Metro Police, and the Louisville Jefferson County
Metro Government

DEFENDANTS

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW OF FACTS

This is a federal civil rights action and state law claims brought on behalf of the Estate of the late William Allen Young, Jr. (hereinafter Young). Young was a 31 year-old, mentally ill homeless individual whose fatal misdeed was squatting in an abandoned house in the Churchill Downs area of Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky. Shortly before midnight on a cold February evening, Young was awoken and startled by the presence of three out-of-control Louisville police officers, who proceeded to shoot him multiple times seconds after encountering him causing his death.

The individually named Defendant police officers (Russell Braun, Randall Richardson and Paige Young) violated the rights of a homeless individual by shooting Young multiple times with minimal or no provocation, as will be subsequently discussed in this pleading.

The Defendant police officers were well familiar with the issue of homeless individuals squatting in the abandoned house. In fact, moments before they fired their weapons they indicated they indicated they were familiar with the sad plight of William Allen Young, Jr. The three of them charged up the stairs and used excessive force when they commenced shooting within a second or two of encountering Young. The ill-trained officers knew at the time of the shooting that Young posed no threat. In an attempt to subsequently conceal their misconduct either made or caused misleading statements to be made falsely justifying their actions, with full knowledge that Young was no longer available to contradict them.

The Plaintiffs bring this complaint and seeks damages for the violation of the federal civil rights of her late son as well as state law causes of actions.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS AND LEGAL CLAIMS

1. Reinella S. Kirilova was appointed by the Jefferson District Court as Administratrix of the Estate of her late son on February 24, 2017 (17-P-00969).
2. Defendants, Russell Braun, Randall Richardson, and Paige Young are named individually and in their official capacity as Louisville Metro police officers who were acting under color of state law when they wrongfully ended the life of William Allen Young, Jr., on February 11th of 2017, when they shot him multiple times with no legal justification. The Louisville Jefferson County Metro Government is the governmental agency pursuant to KRS 67C.101 that controls the Louisville Metro Police and is ultimately responsible for the training and supervision of the named individuals and responsible for the police policies described elsewhere in this Complaint.

3. William Allen Young, Jr., at the time of his death, was a thirty-one (31) year old single man, who was often homeless, struggled with mental illness, addiction issues and occasionally resided with his mother. At the time of his death he was squatting on the second floor of an abandoned house, located on 1234 Oleanda Avenue in Louisville, Kentucky that he had utilized in the recent past.
4. The three Defendants named in their individual capacities, Russell Braun, Randall Richardson, and Paige Young, all arrived at the 1234 Oleander Drive, Louisville, Kentucky address on an alleged burglary call. However, when the three individual Defendants arrived at the scene, they realized it was not a burglary in that no crime was in progress. Instead they were aware that it was a situation in which William Allen Young, Jr., whom they were familiar with as a homeless person, who was frequently found in abandoned homes in the area and was once again squatting in an abandoned upstairs room.
5. The individual Defendants, at least two of whom were wearing body video cameras, charged up the steps and in a matter of less than a second or two after spotting William Allen Young, Jr., who was likely sleeping at the time, and was suddenly awoken when the individual Defendants surprised him and then began shooting him without any provocation or justification. William Allen Young, Jr. did not die at the time, and instead in the minutes prior to his death, he experienced intense pain and suffering as he moaned on the floor.
6. The Defendants, after collectively shooting him as many as a dozen times, were deliberately indifferent to his medical needs and instead of rendering aid, promptly handcuffed the dying William Allen Young, Jr., who perished a few minutes later.

7. The Defendants attempted to conceal their wrongful activity by first causing false statements to be made, such as the Plaintiff was armed with a gun, a machete, and that their actions were in response to a burglary report. In truth, the Defendants were well aware that Young was simply a homeless, harmless person that they cruelly, callously, caused the death of in violation of his 4th, 5th, 8th and 14th Amendment Rights, under the federal constitution and is actionable under 42 USC 1983. In doing so, they improperly seized, assaulted and violated the federal due process rights of Young, and were deliberately indifferent to his serious medical needs by continuing to shoot him, rather than render aid.
8. The Defendants individually and collectively were deliberately indifferent to the rights of Young, and their pattern and practices of negligent training proximately caused the wrongful death of Young.
9. The Plaintiff incorporates by reference all prior allegations made in this pleading and alleges violations under 42 USC 1983, and all of the Defendants acted under color of state law in causing the pain and suffering the eventual wrongful death of William Allen Young, Jr. The Plaintiff also alleges state law claims of assault, battery, negligence and wrongful death as previously described in this Complaint.
10. The Plaintiff incorporates by reference all prior allegations in this pleading and also alleges state law negligence claims against all Defendants for the careless and negligent conduct described in this Complaint, as well as the failure of the individual Defendants to accept proper training and procedures and for the Louisville Metro Police Department to implement such training and procedures to

deal with issues associated with homeless people who are often mentally ill as previously described in this Complaint.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff seeks relief as follows:

1. Judgment against all Defendants;
2. Punitive damages in the amount of Three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00) against each individual Defendant and Nine million dollars (\$9,000,000.00) in punitive damages against the Defendant, (Louisville Metro Police Department);
3. Compensation for the pain and suffering experienced by William Allen Young, Jr.;
4. Compensation for any lost earnings or benefits William Allen Young, Jr., could have achieved in his lifetime;
5. Attorney fees pursuant to 42 USC 1988 and recovery of any costs and expenses;
6. An Order allowing the indigent Plaintiff's estate to proceed in forma pauperis;
7. Trial by jury; and
8. Any and all other relief deemed appropriate.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

S/Ned Pillersdorf
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