

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR POLK COUNTY

<p>PETER WILSON and JEFFREY GEORGE, Plaintiffs, v. CLAYTON CAMPBELL STEIN, INDIRA DIXON SCHEUMAKER, EVA CECILIA LEWIN, ANNA RENEE GEBHARDT, BRADLEY CHRISTOPHER PENNA, and JENNIFER MARIE ERWIN, Defendants.</p>	<p>No. _____ PETITION AND JURY DEMAND</p>
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COMES NOW the Plaintiffs, Peter Wilson and Jeffrey George, and for their cause of action states the following:

INTRODUCTION

1. Plaintiffs Peter Wilson and Jeffrey George bring this action to redress wrongs committed against them by the Defendants occurring July 1, 2020, at the Iowa State Capitol in Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa.
2. The role Des Moines Black Lives Matter, hereinafter referred to as “DMBLM”, played in this matter will be more thoroughly explained in the background which led to the assaults on July 1, 2020.

PARTIES AND JURISDICTION

3. Plaintiff, Peter Wilson, hereinafter referred to as “Wilson”, is an individual living in Polk County, Iowa, and a police officer with the City of Des Moines, Iowa.
4. Plaintiff, Jeffrey George, hereinafter referred to as “George”, is an individual living in Polk County, Iowa, and a police officer with the City of Des Moines, Iowa.

5. Defendant, Clayton Campbell Stein, hereinafter referred to as “Stein”, is an individual living in Polk County, Iowa, and associated with DMBLM.
6. Defendant, Indira Dixon Scheumaker, hereinafter referred to as “Scheumaker”, is an individual living in Polk County, Iowa, and associated with DMBLM.
7. Defendant, Eva Cecilia Lewin, hereinafter referred to as “Lewin”, is an individual living in Polk County, Iowa, and associated with DMBLM.
8. Defendant, Anna Renee Gebhardt, hereinafter referred to as “Gebhardt”, is an individual living in Polk County, Iowa, and associated with DMBLM.
9. Defendant, Bradley Christopher Penna, hereinafter referred to as “Penna”, is an individual living in Polk County, Iowa, and associated with DMBLM.
10. Defendant, Jennifer Marie Erwin, hereinafter referred to as “Erwin”, is an individual living in Polk County, Iowa, and associated with DMBLM.
11. All relevant activities took place in Polk County, Iowa.
12. The damages sustained to the individual Plaintiffs is greater than the jurisdiction of small claims court.
13. A jury demand is requested on all issues triable to a jury.

BACKGROUND

14. During the spring 2020, DMBLM organized a protest at the State of Iowa Capitol located in Polk County, Iowa. At that time DMBLM was an unincorporated association of individuals purportedly attempting to advance social justice causes; one of their goals was to defund police.

15. While purportedly claiming to be engaged in peaceful protest, their actions and plans were nothing short of domestic terrorism. The terrorism involved two distinct tactics: the first being to divert police officers from responding to incidents of violence and vandalism and secondly to violently “de-arrest” protestors.
16. Divisionary tactics they considered included blocking interstate traffic by use of decoy cars trapped behind nails, placing hazardous materials and major obstructions on the roadway, false reporting of violent activity from a vehicle on the side of the road, as well as the use of an empty burner car with an unanimously reported gunman inside. These tactics were described in detail by DMBLM leaders, members, and posted on DMBLM security social media.
17. The “de-arresting” was described by DMBLM leader Matthew Bruce, also known as Maté Muhammad, as:
 - 1) Play tug-of-war with the cops at a demo
 - 2) Dropkick a cop
 - 3) Lift your friend out of a police van
 - 4) Turn out on the streets and get in their way
 - 5) Mace a cop
 - 6) Push over a cop
 - 7) Pull a John Brown
 - 8) Open the door of a cop car
 - 9) Get the cops from behind
 - 10) Get a running start
18. Videotapes were shown to members demonstrating these techniques and actual martial art instructors were brought in to train DMBLM members to use violence against police officers.
19. On July 1, 2020, the named Defendants utilized “de-arresting” tactics against the Plaintiffs during a violent protest.

COUNT I: ASSAULT & BATTERY BY CLAYTON CAMPBELL STEIN

20. On July 1, 2020, at the protest described above, Defendant Stein did place Plaintiff George in a chokehold to prevent him from making an arrest.
21. The act was done to cause physical pain and injury.
22. Defendant's act resulted in physical pain and injury to Plaintiff George.
23. The act was done with malice and intentional disregard of the Plaintiff's rights.
24. As a result of the incident, Defendant Stein pled guilty to assault on a peace officer on December 14, 2020 (Polk Co. Case No. FECR339661).

COUNT II: ASSAULT & BATTERY BY INDIRA DIXON SCHEUMAKER

25. On July 1, 2020, at the protest described above, Defendant Scheumaker did place Plaintiff George in a chokehold to prevent him from making an arrest.
26. On July 1, 2020, at the protest described above, Defendant Scheumaker did hit Plaintiff Wilson.
27. The act was done to cause physical pain and injury.
28. Defendant's act resulted in physical pain and injury to Plaintiff George.
29. The act was done with malice and intentional disregard of the Plaintiff's rights.
30. As a result of the incident, Defendant Scheumaker pled guilty to assault on a peace officer on June 15, 2021 (Polk Co. Case No. FECR339604).

COUNT III: ASSAULT & BATTERY BY EVA CECILIA LEWIN

31. On July 1, 2020, at the protest described above, Defendant Lewin pulled on Plaintiff Wilson's hands and arms to prevent him from making an arrest which caused scrapes and bruises.

32. The act was done to cause physical pain and injury.
33. Defendant's act resulted in physical pain and injury to Plaintiff Wilson.
34. The act was done with malice and intentional disregard of the Plaintiff's rights.
35. As a result of the incident, Defendant Lewin was charged with assault on March 10, 2021 (Polk Co. Case No. AGCR339613).

COUNT IV: ASSAULT & BATTERY BY ANNA RENEE GEBHARDT

36. On July 1, 2020, at the protest described above, Defendant Gebhardt pulled on Plaintiff Wilson's hands and arms to prevent him from making an arrest which caused scrapes and bruises.
37. The act was done to cause physical pain and injury.
38. Defendant's act resulted in physical pain and injury to Plaintiff Wilson.
39. The act was done with malice and intentional disregard of the Plaintiff's rights.
40. As a result of the incident, Defendant Gebhardt was charged with interference with official acts on October 19, 2020 (Polk Co. Case No. AGCR339606).

COUNT V: ASSAULT & BATTERY BY BRADLEY CHRISTOPHER PENNA

41. On July 1, 2020, at the protest described above, Defendant Penna pulled on Plaintiff Wilson's hands and arms to prevent an arrest causing scrapes and bruises.
42. The act was done to cause physical pain and injury.
43. Defendant's act resulted in physical pain and injury to Plaintiff Wilson.
44. The act was done with malice and intentional disregard of the Plaintiff's rights.
45. As a result of the incident, Defendant Penna was charged with interference with official acts on February 2, 2021 (Polk Co. Case No. AGCR339613).

COUNT VI: ASSAULT & BATTERY BY JENNIFER MARIE ERWIN

46. On July 1, 2020, at the protest described above, Defendant Erwin pulled on Plaintiff Wilson's hands and arms to prevent an arrest causing scrapes and bruises.

47. The act was done to cause physical pain and injury.

48. Defendant's act resulted in physical pain and injury to Plaintiff Wilson.

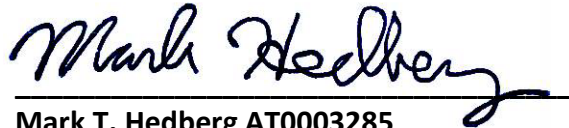
49. The act was done with malice and intentional disregard of the Plaintiff's rights.

50. As a result of the incident, Defendant Penna was charged with interference with official acts on November 13, 2020 (Polk Co. Case No. AGCR339602).

PRAYER

Wherefore, the Plaintiffs pray for judgment against the Defendants in an amount that will reasonably compensate them for their actual damages as well as punitive damages with interest and costs as provided by law.

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