

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

[This form is for prisoners to sue for civil rights violations. NEATLY print in ink (or type) your answers.]

[You are the **PLAINTIFF**, print your full name on this line.]

v.

[The **DEFENDANT** is who you are suing. Put ONE name on this line. List ALL defendants below, including this one.]

Case Number _____

[For a new case in this court, leave blank.
The court will assign a case number.]

[The top of this page is the caption. Everything you file in this case must have the same caption. Once you know your case number, it is **VERY IMPORTANT** that you include it on everything you send to the court for this case. DO NOT send more than one copy of anything to the court.]

PRISONER COMPLAINT

| # | Defendant's Name and Job Title | Work Address |
|---|---|--------------|
| 1 | [Put the defendant named in the caption in this box.] | |
| 2 | [Put the names of any other defendants in these boxes.] | |
| 3 | | |

[If you are suing more defendants, attach an additional page. Number each defendant. Put the name, job title, and work address of each defendant in a separate box as shown here.]

1. How many defendants are you suing? _____
2. What is the name and address of your prison or jail? _____

3. Did the event you are suing about happen there? Yes. No, it happened at: _____

4. On what date did this event occur? _____

[DO NOT write in the margins or on the back of any pages. Attach additional pages if necessary.]

CLAIMS and FACTS

DO: Write a short and plain statement telling what each defendant did wrong.

DO: Use simple English words and sentences.

DO NOT: Quote from cases or statutes, use legal terms, or make legal arguments.

DO: Explain when, where, why, and how each defendant violated your rights.

DO: Include every fact necessary to explain your case and describe your injuries or damages.

DO: Number any documents you attach and refer to them by number in your complaint.

DO NOT: Include social security numbers, dates of birth, or the names of minors.

DO: Use each defendant's name every time you refer to that defendant.

DO: Number your paragraphs. [*The first paragraph has been numbered for you.*]

1. _____

5. When did this event happen?

- Before I was confined.
- While I was confined awaiting trial.
- After I was convicted while confined serving the sentence.
- Other: _____

6. Have you ever sued anyone for this exact same event?

- No.
- Yes, attached is a copy of the final judgment OR an additional sheet listing the court, case number, file date, judgment date, and result of the previous case(s).

7. Could you have used a prison grievance system to complain about this event?

- No, this event is not grievable at this prison or jail.
- Yes, I filed a grievance and attached is a copy of the response from the final step.
- Yes, this event was grievable, but I did not file a grievance because _____

8. If you win this case, what do you want the court to order the defendant(s) to do?

[NOTE: A case filed on this form will not overturn your conviction or change your release date.]

[Initial Each Statement]

_____ I will pre-pay the filing fee OR file a prisoner motion to proceed in forma pauperis.

_____ I will keep a copy of this complaint for my records.

_____ I will promptly notify the court of any change of address.

_____ I WILL NOT send more than one copy of any filing to the court.

_____ I WILL NOT send summons, USM-285, or waiver forms to the clerk.

_____ I declare under penalty of perjury that the statements in this complaint are true.

I placed this complaint in the prison mail system on ____/____/20____ at _____ am/pm.

[Do not fill in this date and time until you give the complaint to prison officials to send to the court.]

Signature

Prisoner Number

[DO NOT write in the margins or on the back of any pages. Attach additional pages if necessary.]