IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA SOUTH BEND DIVISION

DAVIN HACKETT,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.)
)
CITY OF SOUTH BEND, acting by and)
through its Police Department, and) Cause No. 3:17-cv-278
RONALD TEACHMAN, Individually and)
in his official capacity as Chief of Police,)
and SCOTT RUSZKOWSKI, Individually)
and in his official capacity as Chief of)
Police,)
)
Defendants.)

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Davin Hackett, by counsel, respectfully makes his Complaint for Damages.

Nature of Case

 Plaintiff seeks to vindicate his rights under Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Act and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth
 Amendment due to discrimination based on his race.

Jurisdiction

2. This Court has original subject matter jurisdiction of the federal questions presented pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and § 1343. Plaintiff's causes of action arise under the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment and the

- Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Act, 38 U.S.C. §§ 4301–4335.
- Venue is proper in the South Bend Division because all parties reside in this division and the events complained of occurred in this division.
- 4. Hackett received a Right to Sue letter regarding the failure to promote him on March 28, 2017.

Parties

- 5. Davin Hackett (African-American male) is an adult citizen of the United States who resides in South Bend, Indiana.
- The City of South Bend is a government unit located in St. Joseph County,
 Indiana. It operates the South Bend Police Department.
- 7. Ronald Teachman (Caucasian male), is an adult citizen of the United States who resides in South Bend, Indiana. He is sued individually and in his capacity as Chief of the South Bend Police Department.
- 8. Scott Ruszkowski (Caucasian male) is an adult citizen of the United States who resides in South Bend, Indiana. He is sued individually and in his capacity as Chief of the South Bend Police Department.

Facts

- Davin Hackett ("Hackett") has been employed by the South Bend Police
 Department ("SBPD") as a sworn police officer since November 6, 2006.
- 10. Hackett performed exemplary police work, receiving numerous commendations.

- 11. Prior to becoming a police officer, Hackett was enlisted in the U.S. Navy from July 29, 1997 to July 30, 2001, in the U.S. Army from August 1, 2001 to January 2003, and Navy Reserve from January 2003 to June 2005, and the U.S. Air Force from July 2005 to the present.
- 12. Hackett's job duties in the military consisted of work as an ordnance technician, in which he would load and unload bombs, missiles, and artillery shells onto airplanes and other vehicles. His duties included storing, testing, and maintaining bombs and other munitions.
- 13. In each case his separation from military service was an honorable discharge.
- Once he left the military and was employed at SBPD, Hackett applied to in June2014 be assigned to SBPD's bomb squad.
- 15. Hackett's application to the bomb squad was denied.
- 16. The reasons given for the denial was that his military status might cause him to be absent for necessary training and callouts.
- 17. In August 2015 he filed a Charge of Discrimination with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") regarding the denial.
- 18. Hackett lodged a similar complaint about discrimination on the basis of race and military status with the U.S. Department of Labor.
- 19. On November 6, 2016 Hackett was informed by the Department of Labor that SBPD had agreed to assign him to the bomb squad.
- 20. Since then, however, has never been trained with the bomb, squad, called out on a bomb squad assignment, participated in any bomb squad activities, or received additional pay for performance of bomb squad duties.

- 21. In 2015 SBPD posted openings for three positions of patrol Sergeant and Hackett applied.
- 22. Chief of Police Ronald Teachman passed over Hackett for promotion in favor of three less qualified white officers.
- 23. Hackett filed a Charge of Discrimination with the EEOC on October 20, 2015 due to Teachman's failure to promote him.
- 24. In August 2016 Hackett applied for the position of logistics Sergeant. The logistics Sergeant works with SBPD's armaments and other equipment, a position for which Hackett's military training made him particularly well qualified.
- 25. Chief of Police Scott Ruszkowski passed over Hackett on September 19, 2016 in favor of a less qualified white candidate.
- 26. Since filing his complaints about discrimination on the basis of his race and military status, Chiefs Teachman and Ruskowski retaliated against Hackett by subjecting him to a battery of unjustified investigations and discipline.
- 27. At all times Teachman acted in the scope of his employment by the City of South Bend and under color of Indiana law.
- 28. At all times Ruszkowski acted in the scope of his employment by the City of South Bend and under color of Indiana law.

Legal Claims

29. Teachman and Ruskowski's failure to assign Hackett to the bomb squad and permit him to perform his duties there constitute discrimination on the basis of his military status in violation of 38 U.S.C. §§ 4301–4335.

- 30. Teachman and Ruskowksi's failure to promote Hackett to Sergeant on two separate occasions in favor of less qualified Caucasian males constitutes discrimination on the basis of his race in violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
 - 31. The unjustified discipline imposed on Hackett following his several charges of constitutes retaliation for protected activity under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Relief

32. Plaintiff seeks all relief allowable by law, including back pay, front pay, reinstatement, and compensatory and punitive damages, and attorneys fees.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that the Court will enter judgment against Defendants and in favor of Plaintiff, and grant Plaintiff all just and proper relief.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jeffrey S. McQuary, 16791-49 BROWN TOMPKINS LORY 608 E. Market Street Indianapolis, IN 46202 317/631-6866

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Northern District of Indiana

Davin Hackett	
Plaintiff(s))
V.	Civil Action No.
	3:17-cv-278
CITY OF SOUTH BEND, acting by and through its Police Department, and RONALD TEACHMAN, Individually and in his official capacity as Chief of Police, and SCOTT RUSZKOWSKI, Individually and in his official capacity as Chief of Police, Defendant(s)))))))
	SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION
To: THE CITY OF SOUTHBEND 701 West Sample Street South Bend, IN. 46601 A lawsuit has been filed against yo	ou.
are the United States or a United States age P. 12 (a)(2) or (3) — you must serve on the	s summons on you (not counting the day you received it) — or 60 days if you ency, or an officer or employee of the United States described in Fed. R. Civ. e plaintiff an answer to the attached complaint or a motion under Rule 12 of answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney,
Jeffrey S. McQuary 608 East Market Street, Indianapolis, IN. 46204 Phone: (317)-631-6866	
If you fail to respond, judgment by You also must file your answer or motion	y default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. with the court.
	CLERK OF COURT
Date:	
	Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

Civil Action No.

PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))

	This summons for (na	me of individual and title, if any)			
was rec	ceived by me on (date)				
	'I personally served t	he summons on the individual	at (place)		
			on (date)	; or	
	'I left the summons a		usual place of abode with (name)	• 1 4	
			rson of suitable age and discretion who res	sides there,	
	on (date)	, and mailed a copy	to the individual's last known address; or		
	'I served the summor	ns on (name of individual)		, who is	,
	designated by law to	accept service of process on b	ehalf of (name of organization)		
			on (date)	; or	
	'I returned the summe	ons unexecuted because		; or	
	'Other (specify):				
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00	_
	I declare under penalt	y of perjury that this informati	ion is true.		
Date:			Server's signature		
			Printed name and title		
			Server's address		

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Northern District of Indiana

Davin Hackett	
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To: RONALD TEACHMAN 701 West Sample Street South Bend, IN. 46601 A lawsuit has been filed against	you.
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Jeffrey S. McQuary 608 East Market Street, Indianapolis, IN. 46204 Phone: (317)-631-6866	
If you fail to respond, judgment You also must file your answer or motio	by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. on with the court.
	CLERK OF COURT
Date:	Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

AO 440 (Rev. 06/12) Summons in a Civil Action (Page 2)

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was rec	ceived by me on (date)			
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			on (date)	; or
	'I left the summons a	t the individual's residence or us	<u> </u>	da da
			on of suitable age and discretion who res	sides there,
	on (date)	, and mailed a copy to	the individual's last known address; or	
	'I served the summon	as on (name of individual)		, who is
	designated by law to	accept service of process on beha	alf of (name of organization)	
			on (date)	; or
	'I returned the summe	ons unexecuted because		; or
	'Other (specify):			
	My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00
	I declare under penalt	y of perjury that this information	is true.	
Date:			Server's signature	
			Printed name and title	
			Server's address	

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	0a person	of suitable age and discretion who res	sides there,
on (date)	, and mailed a copy to the	ne individual's last known address; or	
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'Other (specify):			
My fees are \$	for travel and \$	for services, for a total of \$	0.00
I declare under penalty	of perjury that this information i	is true.	
		Server's signature	
		Printed name and title	
		Server's address	

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover the This the Atlantage Sentation Toron none replace the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the property of initiating the civil docket sheet. SPECING ON NEXT PLOT OF THIS FORM.)

	I. (a) PLAINTIFFS DAVIN HACKETT				DEFENDANTS City of South Bend, Ronald Teachman, and Scott Ruskowski		
		_				,	
(1	b) County of Residence of	First Listed Plaintiff XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	St. Joseph		County of Residence of	of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)	St. Joseph
	120					NDEMNATION CASES, USE TO CASES	
(6	C) Attorneys (Firm Name, Ad Jeffrey S. McQuary 608 East Market Street, I (317)-631-6866	•			Attorneys (If Known)		
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