



Ivan Kilgore v. Seminole County Public

2012 | Cited 0 times | Tenth Circuit | October 31, 2012

FILED

United States Court of Appeals Tenth Circuit

Elisabeth A. Shumaker Clerk of Court

ORDER AND JUDGMENT¹

Before KELLY, TYMKOVICH, and GORSUCH, Circuit Judges.

Ivan Kilgore filed this pro se suit under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 against a former prosecutor and a court stenographer in Seminole County, Oklahoma. He alleges that the defendants refused to provide -- at no charge to him -- a full transcript of his Oklahoma murder trial for use in his appeal of a separate murder conviction in California and a related habeas petition. This conduct, he says, violated the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

In a four-page order, the district court dismissed Mr. Kilgore's complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e), which governs proceedings in forma pauperis and provides that "the court shall dismiss the case at any time if the court determines that . . . the action . . . is frivolous." 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(i).

Mr. Kilgore appeals this decision and seeks permission to proceed in forma pauperis on appeal. "We generally review a district court's dismissal for frivolousness under § 1915 for abuse of discretion. However, where the frivolousness determination turns on an issue of law, we review the determination de novo." *Fogle v. Pierson*, 435 F.3d 1252, 1259 (10th Cir. 2006) (internal citations omitted).

After careful review of his pleadings and the district court's order, we discern no error. To be sure, an indigent defendant is entitled to a free transcript of his trial when directly appealing the judgment from that trial. *Ruark v. Gunter*, 958 F.2d 318, 319 (10th Cir. 1992) (citing *Griffin v. Illinois*, 351 U.S. 12 (1956)). But no such entitlement attaches in a collateral attack on the same judgment. *Id.* (citing *United States v. MacCollom*, 426 U.S. 317 (1976)). And Mr. Kilgore was not appealing or even collaterally attacking his Oklahoma conviction when he requested the transcript -- he was contesting (directly and collaterally) a separate conviction in California, where his Oklahoma conviction was relevant only as potential impeachment evidence. Mr. Kilgore cites, and we are aware of, no authority suggesting the federal Constitution is implicated by the failure to supply a free transcript in these



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circumstances.

We affirm the judgment of dismissal for frivolousness, deny Mr. Kilgore's motion to proceed in forma pauperis, and direct him to pay any remaining filing fees forthwith.

ENTERED FOR THE COURT

1. After examining the briefs and appellate record, this panel has determined unanimously that oral argument would not materially assist the determination of this appeal. See Fed. R. App. P. 34(a)(2) and 10th Cir. R. 34.1 (G). The case is therefore ordered submitted without oral argument. This order and judgment is not binding precedent except under the doctrines of law of the case, res judicata, and collateral estoppel. It may be cited, however, for its persuasive value consistent with Fed. R. App. P. 32.1 and 10th Cir. R. 32.1.

