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Lapre v. City of Chicago

United States Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit - December 17, 2018 - 911 F.3d 424

Pretrial detainee's mother filed § 1983 action alleging that city was deliberately indifferent to risk of suicide for detainees held in city lockups.

The United States District Court entered summary judgment in city's favor, and plaintiff appealed.

The Court of Appeals held that:

- City's continued use of jail cells with horizontal bars did not amount to deliberate indifference to detainees' safety;
- City was not subject to liability as result of its purported failure to train lockup personnel on how to provide first aid to hanging victims or to install suicide kits;
- City's alleged policy of not reassessing detainees who were returning to lockup after absence did not amount to deliberate indifference to detainees' safety;
- Plaintiff failed to establish issue of fact as to whether city was deliberately indifferent to risk of detainee suicide through its policy of not personally inspecting detainees; and
- City was not subject to liability for failing to properly train personnel on identifying mental health issues or suicide risk.

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