United States Court of Appeals
For the Eighth Circuit

No. 20-3484

Montez Caples

Plaintiff - Appellant

v.

Charles Marmor, Chaplain; Ken Pirc, Religious Activities Review Coordinator

Defendants - Appellees

Patti Wachtendorf, Warden; Mike Schierbrock, Security Director; John Fedler, Security Director; Michelle Waddle, Unit Manager

*Defendant*s

Appeal from United States District Court
for the Southern District of Iowa - Central

Submitted: June 4, 2021
Filed: June 15, 2021
[Unpublished]

Before GRUENDER, WOLLMAN, and ERICKSON, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM.

Montez Caples is an inmate in the custody of the Iowa Department of Corrections (IDOC) at the Iowa State Penitentiary (ISP). In this 42 U.S.C. § 1983 action, Caples claimed IDOC and ISP officials infringed on his First Amendment rights to freely exercise his "Hebrew Israelite" religion when they denied him vendor-produced kosher meals for Passover and Sukkot while he was housed in an administrative segregation unit. The district court[1] determined all defendants were entitled to qualified immunity and granted summary judgment in their favor. Caples appeals.

After a searching and careful review of the record and arguments on appeal, we conclude the grant of summary judgment was appropriate. See Boudoin v. Harsson, 962 F.3d 1034, 1039 (8th Cir. 2020) (standard of review); Goff v. Graves, 362 F.3d 543, 549 (8th Cir. 2004) (concluding that no constitutional violation occurred since the prison's ban on religious food in a segregation unit was "reasonably related to the legitimate penological interest of preserving institutional security"). Because defendants are entitled to qualified immunity, we affirm. See 8th Cir. 47B.

---

[1]The Honorable Rebecca Goodgame Ebinger, United States District Judge for the Southern District of Iowa.