

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

ALEX A., by and through his guardian,
Molly Smith; BRIAN B.; and CHARLES
C., by and through his guardian Kenione
Rogers, individually and on behalf of all
others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

GOVERNOR JOHN BEL EDWARDS, in
his official capacity as Governor of
Louisiana; WILLIAM SOMMERS, in his
official capacity as Deputy Secretary of the
Office of Juvenile Justice, JAMES M.
LEBLANC, in his official capacity as
Secretary of the Louisiana Department of
Public Safety & Corrections,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 3:22-cv-573-SDD-RLB

PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR CLASS CERTIFICATION

For the reasons set forth in Plaintiffs' Memorandum of Law in Support of Motion for Class Certification, attached below, Plaintiffs request that this Court certify a class, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(b)(2), as well as one subclass. This class action seeks declaratory and injunctive relief to enjoin Defendants from moving youth to the Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ) site at Angola and requiring Defendants to release or return any youth who have already been transferred to the Angola site either to their community or to another OJJ facility.

Plaintiffs, therefore, seek to certify one class with one subclass as follows:

- The Class (the "Principal Class") is defined as: "All youth who are now or will be in the custody of OJJ who have been, might be, or will be transferred to the OJJ site at Angola or another adult prison."

- The “Disability Subclass”: “All current and future youth with disabilities within the meaning of the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act in the custody of OJJ who have been, might be, or will be transferred to the OJJ site at Angola or another adult prison.”

Plaintiffs further request that: (1) Plaintiffs Alex A., by and through his guardian, Molly Smith, Brian B., and Charles C., by and through his guardian Kenione Rogers are appointed as Class Representatives for the Principal Class; and (2) Plaintiffs Alex A., by and through his guardian, Molly Smith, Brian B., and Charles C., by and through his guardian Kenione Rogers are appointed as Class Representatives for the Disability Subclass.

Plaintiffs further request that their undersigned attorneys be appointed as class counsel pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(g).

Respectfully submitted, this 31st day of October, 2022.

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ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 31st day of October, 2022, a copy of the foregoing was served upon all counsel of record by electronic transmission.

/s/ David J. Utter
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