

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
ATLANTA DIVISION**

CRAIG CUNNINGHAM,

Pro Se Plaintiff,

v.

YAKIM JORDAN, MJ MINISTRIES
SPREADING THE GOSPEL, INC.,
MJ MINISTRIES, LLC, STEVEN
SLEDGE, AARON JORDAN,
NAOMI COOK, LUTHER
MCKINSTY, FRANK JULIANO,
JONATHAN FOREMAN, JESSE
SPENCER, WARREN TAYLOR,
SERVING HANDS COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,
and JOHN/JANE DOES 1-5,

Defendants.

CASE NO.: 1:22-cv-1419-WMR

**ORDER GRANTING MJ MINISTRIES DEFENDANTS’
MOTION FOR CONTEMPT AND SANCTIONS**

This matter is before the Court on Defendants Steven Sledge, Aaron Jordan, Naomi Cook, Luther McKinstry, Wayne Taylor, and MJ Ministries Spreading the Gospel, Inc.’s (collectively, the “MJ Ministries Defendants”) Motion for Contempt and Sanctions. Having considered the papers submitted, the files and records of the Court, as well as all argument and other matters properly submitted to the Court, and

good cause appearing therefore, the Court makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On November 1, 2024, the Court entered an Order granting the MJ Ministries Defendants' Emergency Motion to Quash Plaintiff's Third-Party Subpoenas and for Contempt and Sanctions in the amount of \$11,467.50, to be paid within 30 days of the date of the Order. ECF No. 75. The Clerk of Court entered an Attorney Fee Judgment on the same day. ECF No. 76.

2. To date, neither the MJ Ministries Defendants nor their counsel have received \$11,467.50 or any portion thereof.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

3. All the elements to find Plaintiff in contempt are met here. *See Georgia Power Co. v. NLRM*, [484 F.3d 1288,1291](#) (11th Cir. 2007) (noting contempt requires showing that the violated order was (1) valid and lawful; (2) clear; and (3) violator had the ability to comply with it).


4. The Court's last Order was valid and lawful. The Order was clear because it ordered Plaintiff to pay a sum within thirty days. Plaintiff has not shown any reason why he could not comply. *See Georgia Power Co. v. NLRM*, [484 F.3d 1288,1291](#) (11th Cir. 2007).

CONCLUSION

Under these circumstances, and considering Plaintiff's history of non-compliance with this Court's orders, monetary sanctions are not only warranted but necessary to deter future misconduct. *See Rhodes v. MacDonald*, 670 F. Supp. 2d 1363, 1373 (M.D. Ga. 2009), *aff'd*, 368 F. App'x 949 (11th Cir. 2010) (recognizing the court has "inherent authority" to impose monetary sanctions to deter future misconduct).

For these reasons, the Court hereby grants Defendants' Motion for Contempt and Sanctions in full. The Court hereby finds Plaintiff in civil contempt of the Court's November 1, 2024 Order, and awards the MJ Ministries Defendants the fees and costs associated with their Motion and the hearing thereon. Within fourteen (14) days hereof, the MJ Ministries Defendants shall submit paperwork detailing: (1) their fees and costs incurred in connection with their Motion; and (2) any other relief they believe is appropriate under the circumstances.

IT IS SO ORDERED, this 21st day of February 2025.



WILLIAM M. RAY, II
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE