

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION

Tracy Cooper & Erica Goree,)
) No. 22-cv-5761
 Plaintiffs)
) (Judge Gettleman)
 -vs-)
)
 City of Chicago, et al.)
)
 Defendants)

MOTION TO APPOINT SPECIAL ADMINISTRATOR FOR DECEASED PLAINTIFF

Rickey Walker, by counsel, moves the Court to appoint him as Special Administrator of the Estate of Erica Goree, his deceased mother.

Grounds for this motion are as follows:

1. Erica Goree was one of the plaintiffs who filed this lawsuit on October 19, 2022.
2. Ms. Goree died on June 1, 2025.
3. The Section 1983 claims advanced by Ms. Goree survive her death.
4. Rickey Walker is one of Ms. Goree's four children and has expressed a willingness to continue this suit for the benefit of his mother's estate.
5. An estate has not been opened for Ms. Goree, whose assets at the time of death consisted only of this lawsuit.

6. Ms. Goree was never married. Her mother and father predeceased her. Ms. Goree had four children, including movant.

7. The Seventh Circuit held in *Anderson v. Romero*, 42 F.3d 1121 (7th Cir. 1994) that a federal court has the power to appoint a special administrator to continue the prosecution of a Section 1983 action, as long as that action survives the death of the plaintiff.

8. The Court of Appeals applied *Anderson* in *Stewart v. Special Adm'r of Estate of Mesrobian*, 559 F. App'x 543, 548 (7th Cir. 2014) and in *Gilliam v. City of Chicago*, No. 17-1679 (7th Cir. December 6, 2017).

9. Several judges in this district have also applied *Anderson* in cases where the plaintiff died during the pendency of a Section 1983 case. *Smith v. Chicago*, 18-cv-4918, ECF No. 101 (Kendall, J.); *Ollie v. Chicago*, 19-cv-131, ECF No. 76 (Pallmeyer, C.J.); *Thomas v. Chicago*, 19-cv-133, ECF No. 52 (Pallmeyer, C.J.); *Smith v. Chicago*, 14-cv-7718, ECF No. 102 (Wood, J.); *Elizarri v. Sheriff*, 17-cv-8120, ECF No. 73 (Durkin, J.); *Lepinay v. City of Chicago*, 16-cv-10695, ECF No. 27 (Feinerman, J.); *Gray v. Village of Riverdale*, 16-cv-4856, ECF No. 17 (Bucklo, J.); *Medved v. Butkovic*, 09-cv-3699, ECF No. 16 (Gottschall, J.); *Smentek v. Sheriff*, 09-cv-529, ECF No. 484 (Lefkow, J.)

It is therefore respectfully requested that the Court appoint Rickey Walker as special administrator of the Estate of Erica Goree.

Respectfully submitted

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