

Bolin v. Story

225 F.3d 1234 (11th Cir. 2000)

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

Issue: 1996 statute bars even injunctive relief against judges

Holding on Judicial Immunity

Federal judges are absolutely immune from damages, and — after the Federal Courts Improvement Act of 1996 — § 1983 now bars even injunctive relief against a judicial officer for acts taken in a judicial capacity, unless a declaratory decree was violated or declaratory relief was unavailable. This narrowed the accountability window that *Pulliam v. Allen* had opened.

Key Quotations (verbatim)

“In 1996, Congress ... amended § 1983 to provide that 'injunctive relief shall not be granted' in an action brought against 'a judicial officer for an act or omission taken in such officer's judicial capacity ... unless a declaratory decree was violated or declaratory relief was unavailable.'”

— Bolin v. Story, 225 F.3d 1234, 1242 (11th Cir. 2000) (quoting the Federal Courts Improvement Act of 1996).

Full opinion (authoritative source):

<https://www.courtlistener.com/opinion/770341/larry-bolin-kenneth-david-pealock-v-richard-w-story/>

This case file states the court's holding on judicial immunity and reproduces verbatim, pin-cited excerpts for research and citation. It is a research summary, not the complete slip opinion; consult the linked source for the full text and to Shepardize/verify current status before relying on it in a filing.