

King v. Love

766 F.2d 962 (6th Cir. 1985)

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

Issue: Immunity for judicial acts even in excess of authority

Holding on Judicial Immunity

A judge who set an allegedly excessive bond and misled the defendant about it was nonetheless absolutely immune, because setting bond is a judicial act within the court's subject-matter jurisdiction. Acts within jurisdiction are immune even if done in excess of authority or improperly.

Key Quotations (verbatim)

“Provided that they do not engage in non-judicial acts or act in the clear absence of all jurisdiction, judges presiding over courts of general jurisdiction are absolutely immune from suits for damages even if they act erroneously, corruptly or in excess of jurisdiction.”

— King v. Love, 766 F.2d 962, 965 (6th Cir. 1985).

“[W]here a judge of a court of limited jurisdiction engages in judicial acts in deciding a case over which the court has subject matter jurisdiction, he is absolutely immune from suits for damages even if he exceeds his authority or his jurisdiction.”

— King v. Love, 766 F.2d 962, 968 (6th Cir. 1985).

Full opinion (authoritative source):

<https://www.courtlistener.com/opinion/454703/johnny-king-v-robert-h-love/>

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.