

Sevier v. Turner

742 F.2d 262 (6th Cir. 1984)

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

Issue: Immunity does not bar injunctive relief; reversed on damages

Holding on Judicial Immunity

The court reversed a dismissal that had been granted on judicial-immunity grounds. Applying Pulliam, it held immunity does not bar injunctive relief, and it remanded the damages claim, recognizing that a judge is not immune for acts taken outside his judicial role (such as acting as a complaining party).

Key Quotations (verbatim)

“The Supreme Court has recently decided that the doctrine of judicial immunity does not protect state judicial officers ... from suits for injunctive relief.”

— Sevier v. Turner, 742 F.2d 262, 270 (6th Cir. 1984).

“The district court held that the doctrine of judicial immunity precluded any award of damages against the defendants. We disagree and remand the case ... for further proceedings on the damages claim.”

— Sevier v. Turner, 742 F.2d 262, 272 (6th Cir. 1984).

Note / Caveat: Mixed result: the judge retained immunity for genuinely judicial acts, but the court refused to treat immunity as a complete bar to the suit.

Full opinion (authoritative source):

<https://www.courtlistener.com/opinion/440363/freddie-sevier-v-kenneth-turner/>

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.