

19th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA

JACOB BROWN	*	CIVIL ACTION
	*	
VERSUS	*	DOCKET NO. C-751827 “ 23”
	*	
STATE OF LOUISIANA: DEPT. OF PUBLIC SAFETY:	*	JUDGE
	*	
OFFICE OF STATE POLICE	*	
	*	

DEFENDANT’S ANSWER TO PETITION FOR ATTORNEY FEES

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsels comes Defendant, the State of Louisiana, through the Department of Public Safety & Corrections, Office of State Police, responding to the petition for Attorney fees filed on behalf of Plaintiff Jacob Brown as follows:

1.

In response to the allegations contained in paragraph no.1 of the Petition for Attorney Fees, Defendants admit as written their underlying identity as the Department of Public Safety & Corrections (Office of State Police).

2.

The allegations contained in paragraph no. 2 of the petition for Attorney Fees are statements of law and require no answer. Nevertheless, to the extent that a response is deemed to be required, Defendant does not contest the reproduction of the portion of LSA- R.S. 42:1442.

3.

The allegations contained in paragraph no. 3 of the petition for Attorney Fees are denied as written for lack of sufficient information to justify a belief as to the truth of the matters contained therein.

4.

The allegations contained in paragraph no. 4 of the petition for Attorney Fees are denied as written for lack of sufficient information to justify a belief as to the truth of the matters contained therein.

5.

The allegations contained in paragraph no. 5 of the petition for Attorney Fees are denied as written for lack of sufficient information to justify a belief as to the truth of the matters contained therein.

6.

The allegations contained in paragraph no. 6 of the petition for Attorney Fees are denied as written for lack of sufficient information to justify a belief as to the truth of the matters contained therein.

7.

The allegations contained in paragraph no. 7 of the petition for Attorney Fees are admitted.

8.

The allegations contained in paragraph no. 8 of the petition for Attorney Fees are statements of law and require no answer. Nevertheless, to the extent that a response is deemed to be required, Defendant admits in part to the extent that they are in agreement with the reasoning and ruling of the Louisiana Court of Appeal, First Circuit, in *Authement v. Larpenier*, 97-0580 (La. App. 1 Cir. 5/15/98), 713 So.2d 712 as to the interpretation of the portion of LSA- R.S. 42:1442.

9.

The allegations contained in paragraph no. 9 of the petition for Attorney Fees are denied as written for lack of sufficient information to justify a belief as to the truth of the matters contained therein.

10.

The allegations contained in paragraph no. 10 of the petition for Attorney Fees are denied as written for lack of sufficient information to justify a belief as to the truth of the matters contained therein.

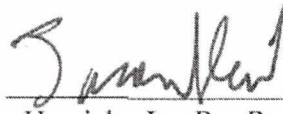
11.

The allegations contained in paragraph no. 11 of the petition for Attorney Fees require no answer. However, to the extent that a response is deemed to be required, Defendant denied as written paragraph no.11 for lack of sufficient information to justify a belief as to the truth of the matters contained therein.

FURTHER ANSWERING, Defendant, the State of Louisiana, through the Department of Public Safety & Corrections, Office of State Police, aver that Jacob Brown was not acting in good faith in the performance or in the furtherance of the course and scope of his employment as defined by law and the policies and procedures of the law enforcement agency and he is not entitled to the reimbursement of attorney fees and expenses under LSA- R.S. 42:1442.

WHEREFORE, the defendant, the State of Louisiana, through the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Louisiana State Police, prays that this answer be deemed good and sufficient and that after all due proceedings are had that there be judgment in their favor, and against Plaintiff Jacob Brown, dismissing the plaintiff's petition for with prejudice and at the plaintiff's cost.

Respectfully Submitted,
**Louisiana Department of Public Safety
(Office of State Police)**

BY: 

Jason Hessick – La. Bar Roll No. 32156

jason.Hessick@la.Gov

Tunde M. Animashaun – La. Bar Roll No. 19287

Babatunde.Animashaun@la.Gov

Post Office Box 66614, Drawer A-6

Baton Rouge, LA 70896


Telephone: (225) 925-6103

Fax: (225) 925-4624

*Attorneys for the Louisiana Department of Public
Safety & Corrections (Office of State Police)*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on September 6, 2024, a copy of *Defendants' Answer to Petition for Attorney fees* was filed electronically with the Clerk of Court and by sending a copy to Law Offices of Russell Woodard, Jr, properly addressed to 119 Pelican Blvd. Ruston, La. 71270 by first class postage prepaid.

/s/ 
Jason Hessick