



Frequently Asked Questions about *Kiefel v. Ruff, et al*

Who is the plaintiff?

Camille is a woman in her early thirties. She is suing the two counselors who signed off on her double mastectomy surgery to affirm a “non-binary gender identity.” Camille endured trauma as a young girl as well as physical and mental health challenges through her teens and twenties. Not long after a painful surgery that has left her without breasts and suffering many complications, Camille realized that identifying as “non-binary” and hating her body were trauma responses and attempts to escape the burdens of being a woman. She has recently received genuine medical and psychological help overcoming physical and mental health problems, largely through holistic medicine and embodiment therapies, and deeply resents and regrets that she was misled into believing that harming her body in pursuit of a “gender identity” held the answers for her anxiety, depression, and self-doubts. She hopes to hold mental health professionals (and the clinics who employ them) accountable for misdiagnosing her and facilitating a medical procedure that has left Camille feeling physically and emotionally mutilated.

Who are the defendants?

Camille is suing four defendants in her lawsuit: a licensed clinical social worker and a licensed professional counselor, each of whom claimed to “evaluate” Camille and recommended her for double mastectomy surgery to “affirm” her “non-binary identity,” and the two health care clinics that employ these mental health professionals; both clinics claim to specialize in helping the “LGBTQ” community.

What are the legal claims in this case?

Camille's legal claims include professional malpractice – breach of the duty of care that mental health professionals owe to an individual client; intentional infliction of emotional distress; and fraud. Camille alleges that the mental health professionals who claimed to evaluate and diagnose her ignored her history of trauma and her extensive medical and mental health issues, instead “affirming” her belief in having a “non-binary identity” and urging her to pursue “chest reconstruction” surgery as the path to self-actualization. Camille is alleging damages, injuries, and harms in the form of emotional distress, financial losses (such as not being able to work), and physical injuries resulting from an unnecessary double mastectomy surgery performed to “affirm” the misguided belief that adopting a “non-binary” identity would resolve her medical and psychological health needs.

What is WoLF's role?

WoLF is proud to be the initial financial sponsor of Camille's lawsuit to help her launch this groundbreaking lawsuit. WoLF's support made it possible for Camille to file her lawsuit.

What is Jackson Bone LLP's role?

Jackson Bone LLP is the law firm representing Camille in this case. Candice Jackson and Lauren Bone are the attorneys handling Camille's case. Jackson Bone is also WoLF's contracted law firm for WoLF's other groundbreaking litigation, Chandler v. CDCR.

What is the anticipated timeline for this case?

Typically, cases like this take 18 to 24 months. The COVID pandemic has negatively impacted the timelines of many lawsuits throughout the country; a huge backlog has been created in many courts. We anticipate that Camille's lawsuit will take at least two years, but it is very difficult to predict how long it will take for her as she fights for justice and accountability of the mental health profession and its key role in misleading young women into harmful medical procedures in an attempt to escape the reality of being female.

How can people donate to support initiatives like this, to help other women?

WoLF plans to support at least two additional female plaintiffs in similar cases in the upcoming months. By making a donation to WoLF, you will have the opportunity to open the courtroom doors to other courageous women like Camille. You can learn more about your charitable giving options [here](#).