



to open his left eye; that he was in severe pain for one to two weeks after being bitten; and that he suffered an additional three to four months of discomfort including tightness in his face.

{¶4} Evidence also reveals that on September 22, 1998, plaintiff's stitches were removed and that he was prescribed an antibiotic ointment which he was to apply daily; the ensuing scar measures approximately three to four centimeters. Plaintiff testified that the scar interferes with his ability to grow a moustache, that he suffers from ingrown hairs around the scar, and that part of his lip still tends to be sore. Plaintiff further testified that he now suffers from fear of dogs, that he has nightmares about dogs, and that he has a "complex" about the appearance of his scar. Plaintiff presented no evidence that he sustained either out-of-pocket loss for lost wages or medical expenses in regard to his injuries.

{¶5} Plaintiff's wife, Melody Pickett, testified that she was introduced to plaintiff after his release from defendant's custody; that the scar looks the same now as it did when she first met him; that plaintiff tries to hide the scar by putting his hand over his mouth frequently; and that she cannot own a pet dog because of his fear.

{¶6} Lucinda Rees, R.N., the Health Care Administrator for MCI, testified that according to plaintiff's OSUH medical records, he was given a tetanus shot, received six to eight stitches, and given both morphine for pain and antibiotics. Rees further testified that the medical records from MCI do not reflect that plaintiff complained about the dog bite after his stitches were removed or that he was ever prescribed any antianxiety or sleeping medications.

{¶7} Based upon the testimony and evidence, the court finds that plaintiff has a permanent scar on his face, that he has suffered severe pain and that he will continue to suffer occasional pain in the future. Therefore, judgment is recommended in the amount of \$15,025, which includes the \$25 filing fee paid by plaintiff.

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STEVEN A. LARSON  
Magistrate

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