

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
WEST VIRGINIA

Trina M. v. Frank Bisignano, Commissioner of Social Security

Trina M. · No. 2:25-cv-00209 · Decided January 28, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia adopted the magistrate judge’s proposed findings and recommendation in a Social Security appeal. The court denied the plaintiff’s request for judgment on the pleadings, granted the Commissioner’s request to affirm the administrative decision, affirmed the Commissioner’s final decision, and dismissed the action.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia
WRITING FOR THE COURT	United States District Judge Bengner
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia
DECIDED	January 28, 2026
DOCKET	2:25-cv-00209
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The plaintiff sought judgment on the pleadings in an action reviewing the Commissioner's Social Security decision. The matter was referred to a magistrate judge, who recommended denying the plaintiff's request, granting the Commissioner's request to affirm, and dismissing the action. The district court adopted the recommendation and entered judgment for the Commissioner.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	When no party timely objects to a magistrate judge's proposed findings and recommendation, the district court is not required to review the magistrate judge's factual or legal conclusions de novo or under any other standard.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished
PARTIES	Trina M. v. Frank Bisignano, Commissioner of Social Security

TOPICS

- motion for judgment on the pleadings
- judicial review of agency action
- administrative law
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

Social Security

administrative law

civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the district court was required to conduct de novo or other review of the magistrate judge's proposed findings and recommendation when neither party timely filed objections.
2. Whether the magistrate judge's recommendation should be adopted, the plaintiff's request for judgment on the pleadings denied, the Commissioner's decision affirmed, and the action dismissed.

HOLDINGS

1. When no timely objections are filed to a magistrate judge's proposed findings and recommendation, the district court is not required to review the magistrate judge's factual or legal conclusions de novo or under any other standard.
2. The plaintiff's request for judgment on the pleadings was denied, the Commissioner's request to affirm was granted, the Commissioner's final decision was affirmed, and the action was dismissed.

KEY QUOTATIONS

"The Court is not required to review, under a de novo or any other standard, the factual or legal conclusions of the magistrate judge as to those portions of the findings or recommendation to which no objections are addressed."

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The plaintiff challenged the final decision of the Commissioner of Social Security. The plaintiff requested judgment on the pleadings, while the Commissioner requested affirmance of the administrative decision. The magistrate judge recommended denying the plaintiff's request, affirming the Commissioner's decision, and dismissing the action; neither party timely objected.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The action was referred to Magistrate Judge Joseph K. Reeder under 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B). The magistrate judge issued proposed findings and a recommendation on January 5, 2026. Neither party timely objected, so the district court adopted the recommendation, denied the plaintiff's request for judgment on the pleadings, granted the Commissioner's request to affirm, affirmed the Commissioner's final decision, and dismissed the action.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- Thomas v. Arn, 474 U.S. 140, 149-50 (1985)
- Camby v. Davis, 718 F.2d 198, 199 (4th Cir. 1983)

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