

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF  
VIRGINIA, ALEXANDRIA DIVISION

Board of Trustees, Sheet Metal Workers’ National Pension Fund, et  
al. v. Superior Air, Inc.

Board of Trustees v. Superior Air · No. 1:25-cv-1560 (RDA/WBP) · Decided January 28, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia adopted a magistrate judge’s report recommending default judgment against Superior Air, Inc. The court granted the plaintiffs’ motion and directed entry of default judgment under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55 for \$61,908.64, consisting of damages and attorneys’ fees and costs.

CASE DETAILS

|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COURT              | United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria Division                                                                                                    |
| JURISDICTION       | United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria Division                                                                                                    |
| DECIDED            | January 28, 2026                                                                                                                                                                          |
| DOCKET             | 1:25-cv-1560 (RDA/WBP)                                                                                                                                                                    |
| DISPOSITION        | other                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| PROCEDURAL POSTURE | Plaintiffs moved for default judgment. A magistrate judge recommended granting the motion, and the district court reviewed and adopted the recommendation after no objections were filed. |
| STANDARD OF REVIEW | In the absence of objections to a magistrate judge’s recommendation, the district court reviews the record for clear error rather than conducting de novo review.                         |
| PRECEDENTIAL VALUE | Unknown                                                                                                                                                                                   |

TOPICS

- default judgment
- default
- attorney fees
- damages
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- employee benefits
- employment law
- remedies

**QUESTIONS PRESENTED**

1. Whether the district court should adopt the magistrate judge’s recommendation and grant plaintiffs’ motion for default judgment where no objections were filed.
2. Whether default judgment should be entered against Superior Air, Inc. under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55 in the amount recommended by the magistrate judge.

**HOLDINGS**

1. When no objections are filed to a magistrate judge’s recommendation, the district court need only satisfy itself that there is no clear error on the face of the record before accepting the recommendation.
2. Plaintiffs’ motion for default judgment was granted, and default judgment was entered in their favor against Superior Air, Inc. in the total amount of \$61,908.64, including \$56,362.40 in damages and \$5,546.24 in attorneys’ fees and costs.

**KEY QUOTATIONS**

*“need not conduct a de novo review, but instead must ‘only satisfy itself that there is no clear error on the face of the record in order to accept the recommendation’” (315)*

**FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

The Board of Trustees of the Sheet Metal Workers’ National Pension Fund and the other plaintiffs sought relief against Superior Air, Inc. The court entered default judgment for plaintiffs in the total amount of \$61,908.64, consisting of \$56,362.40 in damages and \$5,546.24 in attorneys’ fees and costs.

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

Plaintiffs filed a motion for default judgment against Superior Air, Inc. Magistrate Judge William B. Porter issued proposed findings and recommendations recommending that the motion be granted. No objections were filed by the January 27, 2026 deadline, and the district court found no clear error, approved and adopted the Report, granted default judgment, awarded \$61,908.64, and directed the Clerk to close the case.

**DISPOSITION**

other

**CASES CITED**

- Diamond v. Colonial Life & Acc. Ins. Co., 416 F.3d 310, 315 (4th Cir. 2005)

**OPINION**

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA  
Alexandria Division BOARD OF TRUSTEES, SHEET METAL ) WORKERS’ NATIONAL  
PENSION ) FUND, et al., ) ) Plaintiffs, ) ) v. ) Civil Action No. 1:25-cv-1560 (RDA/WBP) )  
SUPERIOR AIR, INC., ) ) Defendant. ) ORDER This matter comes before the Court on U.S.

Magistrate Judge William B. Porter's Proposed Findings of Fact and Recommendations ("Report") (Dkt.

13) as well as Plaintiffs' Motion for Default Judgment (Dkt. 8). Judge Porter recommends that the Court grant the motion and enter default judgment against Defendant Superior Air, Inc. Dkt. 13. The deadline for submitting objections to the Report was January 27, 2026.

To date, no objections have been filed. After reviewing the record and Judge Porter's Report, and finding no clear error,<sup>1</sup> the Court hereby APPROVES and ADOPTS the Report (Dkt. 13). Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that Plaintiffs' Motion (Dkt. 8) is GRANTED; and it is FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of Court is DIRECTED to enter DEFAULT JUDGMENT, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55, in favor of Plaintiffs and against 1 See *Diamond v. Colonial Life & Acc.*

*Ins. Co.*, 416 F.3d 310, 315 (4th Cir. 2005) (in the absence of any objections to a Magistrate Judge's Recommendation, the Court "need not conduct a de novo review, but instead must 'only satisfy itself that there is no clear error on the face of the record in order to accept the recommendation'"). Defendant Superior Air, Inc. in the total amount of \$61,908.64, which is comprised of \$56,362.40 in damages and \$5,546.24 in attorneys' fees and costs; and it is FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Court is DIRECTED to place this matter among the ended causes.

IT IS SO ORDERED. Alexandria, Virginia January x&, 2026 mara United States Dic i istrict Judge