

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)