

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
TEXAS, CORPUS CHRISTI DIVISION

Aaron A. Ramos v. Chaplain J. Stehle, et al.

Ramos · No. 2:25-CV-00024 · Decided January 22, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas adopts the magistrate judge’s memorandum and recommendation after no timely objections were filed. The court dismisses Defendant Warden J. Fikes without prejudice for failure to timely serve him with the complaint.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Corpus Christi Division
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Nelva Gonzales Ramos
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Corpus Christi Division
DECIDED	January 22, 2026
DOCKET	2:25-CV-00024
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The district court reviewed and adopted a magistrate judge's memorandum and recommendation recommending dismissal of Warden J. Fikes for failure to timely serve him with the complaint.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Clear-error review of a magistrate judge's memorandum and recommendation when no timely objection is filed.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished district court order; precedential status unknown
PARTIES	Aaron A. Ramos v. Chaplain J. Stehle, et al.

TOPICS

- service of process
- civil procedure
- civil rights
- prisoners rights

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- civil rights
- prisoner litigation

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the district court should accept the magistrate judge's memorandum and recommendation when no timely objection was filed and the record revealed no clear error.
2. Whether Warden J. Fikes should be dismissed without prejudice for failure to timely serve him with the complaint.

HOLDINGS

1. When no timely objection to a magistrate judge's memorandum and recommendation is filed, the district court need only determine whether the record contains clear error before accepting the recommendation.
2. Warden J. Fikes was dismissed without prejudice for failure to timely serve him with the complaint.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“When no timely objection to a magistrate judge’s memorandum and recommendation is filed, the district court need only satisfy itself that there is no clear error on the face of the record and accept the magistrate judge’s memorandum and recommendation.” (at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiff Aaron A. Ramos failed to timely serve Warden J. Fikes with the complaint. The magistrate judge recommended dismissing Warden J. Fikes for that failure. Ramos received notice of the recommendation and an opportunity to object but did not timely object.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On December 15, 2025, Magistrate Judge Jason B. Libby issued a memorandum and recommendation recommending dismissal of Warden J. Fikes for failure to serve. Plaintiff received notice and an opportunity to object but filed no timely objections. After reviewing the record and finding no clear error, the district court adopted the recommendation and dismissed Warden J. Fikes without prejudice.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- *Guillory v. PPG Industries, Inc.*, 434 F.3d 303, 308 (5th Cir. 2005)
- *Douglass v. United Services Automobile Association*, 79 F.3d 1415, 1420 (5th Cir. 1996)

OPINION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT January 22, 2026 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
Nathan Ochsner, Clerk CORPUS CHRISTI DIVISION AARON A RAMOS, § § Plaintiff, § § VS.
§ CIVIL ACTION NO. 2:25-CV-00024 § CHAPLAIN J. STEHLE, et al., § § Defendants. §
ORDER ADOPTING MEMORANDUM AND RECOMMENDATION TO DISMISS WARDEN

J. FIKES FOR FAILURE TO SERVE On December 15, 2025, United States Magistrate Judge Jason B. Libby issued his “Memorandum and Recommendation to Dismiss Warden J. Fikes for Failure to Serve” (D.E.

32). Plaintiff was provided proper notice of, and opportunity to object to, the Magistrate Judge’s memorandum and recommendation. Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b); 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); General Order No. 2002-13. No objections have been timely filed. When no timely objection to a magistrate judge’s memorandum and recommendation is filed, the district court need only satisfy itself that there is no clear error on the face of the record and accept the magistrate judge’s memorandum and recommendation.

Guillory v. PPG Indus., Inc., 434 F.3d 303, 308 (5th Cir. 2005) (citing Douglass v. United Servs. Auto Ass’n, 79 F.3d 1415, 1420 (5th Cir. 1996)). Having reviewed the findings of fact and conclusions of law set forth in the Magistrate Judge’s memorandum and recommendation (D.E. 32), and all other relevant documents in the record, and finding no clear error, the Court ADOPTS as its own the findings and conclusions of the Magistrate Judge.

Accordingly, the Court ORDERS that Defendant Warden J. Fikes is DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE for failure to timely serve him with the complaint. ORDERED on January 22, 2026. Ley GONZAIGS RAMOS UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE 2/2