

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF
TENNESSEE

Abegunde v. United States

Abegunde · No. 2:22-cv-02879-SHL-atc · Decided March 11, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee denied and dismissed with prejudice Olufolajimi Abegunde’s motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255. The court held that the motion became moot after Abegunde completed both his custodial sentence and supervised release, and he identified no continuing collateral consequence that could support Article III jurisdiction. Judgment was entered for the United States.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Sheryl H. Lipman
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee
DECIDED	March 11, 2026
DOCKET	2:22-cv-02879-SHL-atc
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 to vacate, set aside, or correct sentence; the district court denied the motion and dismissed it with prejudice as moot.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court applied the Article III case-or-controversy and mootness requirement, asking whether any effectual relief remained available.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished district court order; precedential status not designated in the document
PARTIES	Olufolajimi Abegunde v. United States of America

TOPICS

- federal habeas corpus
- post-conviction relief
- habeas corpus
- criminal procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Abegunde's § 2255 motion remained a live Article III case or controversy after he completed both his custodial sentence and supervised release.
2. Whether the court could grant any effectual relief when the motion did not identify a continuing collateral consequence of the conviction.

HOLDINGS

1. A § 2255 motion becomes moot after the movant completes the custodial sentence and supervised release unless a concrete and continuing injury or collateral consequence remains that could be redressed by the court.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Once the convict’s sentence has expired . . . some concrete and continuing injury other than the now-ended incarceration or parole—some ‘collateral consequence’ of the conviction— must exist if the suit is to be maintained.”

“Accordingly, judgment on Abegunde’s behalf would not benefit him in any way.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Abegunde filed a federal § 2255 motion asserting three Brady violations, five forms of ineffective assistance by appellate counsel, and two forms of ineffective assistance by trial counsel. He was released from custody on February 22, 2023, and his three-year term of supervised release subsequently expired while the motion was pending. His filings did not identify any continuing collateral consequence of his conviction after supervised release ended.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Abegunde filed a pro se § 2255 motion alleging Brady violations and ineffective assistance of trial and appellate counsel. After the court struck an oversized memorandum and granted extensions for an amended memorandum, Abegunde filed the amended memorandum on January 17, 2025. During the pendency of the motion, he completed both his custodial sentence and supervised release, and the court concluded that no continuing collateral consequence was alleged.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- Pilla v. United States, 668 F.3d 368, 372 (6th Cir. 2012)
- United States v. Holley, No. 23-5903, 2024 WL 4554805, at *3 (6th Cir. Sept. 24, 2024)

- Hollingsworth v. Perry, 570 U.S. 693, 704 (2013)
- Fialka-Feldman v. Oakland Univ. Bd. of Trs., 639 F.3d 711, 713 (6th Cir. 2011)
- Coalition for Gov't Procurement v. Fed. Prison Indus., Inc., 365 F.3d 435, 458 (6th Cir. 2004)
- Spencer v. Kemna, 523 U.S. 1, 7 (1998)

OPINION

Abegunde

PER CURIAM.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE
WESTERN DIVISION

OLUFOLAJIMI ABEGUNDE,)

) Movant,)) Cv. No. 2:22-cv-02879-SHL-atc v.) Cr. No. 2:17-cr-20238-07-SHL)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)

) Respondent.)

ORDER DENYING MOTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 2255 TO VACATE, SET ASIDE, OR
CORRECT SENTENCE BY A PERSON IN FEDERAL CUSTODY

On December 30, 2022, Movant Olufolajimi Abegunde, filed a pro se Motion Under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 to Vacate, Set Aside, or Correct Sentence by a Person in Federal Custody (“§ 2255 Motion”). (ECF No. 1.) On January 19, 2023, Abegunde filed a Memorandum of Law in Support of Motion Under 28 U.S.C. Sec. 2255 to Vacate, Set Aside, or Correct Sentence by a Person in Federal Custody (“Legal Memorandum”). The Legal Memorandum was 242 single-spaced pages and was accompanied by 143 pages of supporting documents. The Court issued an order on January 26, 2023, that, inter alia, struck the memorandum because an order had been issued in the criminal case denying leave to exceed the page limitation in Local Rule 7.2(e) and because he had not shown good cause for submitting a memorandum of that extraordinary length. (ECF No. 8.) The Court granted Abegunde leave to submit a memorandum of fifty double-spaced pages, excluding the caption and signature page. (Id. at 647.) On February 21, 2023, Abegunde filed a Motion for the Reinstatement and Utilization of Movant’s Original Oversized Memorandum of Law in Support of Movant’s § 2255 Petition. (ECF No. 12.) The Court denied that motion, finding that Abegunde had not shown good cause as to why he needed to submit a memorandum five times the length of the oversized memorandum the Court had already approved. (ECF No. 13.) The Court then granted Abegunde’s motion seeking an extension of time to submit the amended memorandum, setting a due date of June 26, 2023. (ECF No. 18.) The day after that deadline expired, Abegunde sought another extension, this one of ninety days. (ECF No. 19.) Abegunde failed to file the amended memorandum, and, on December 18, 2024, the Court granted his motion and gave him until January 17, 2025, in which to file the amended memorandum. (ECF No. 21.) On January 17, 2025, Abegunde filed his amended memorandum, and, although the document was

fifty pages long, it was less than double spaced, and had 144 pages of attachments. (See ECF No. 23.) In his petition and in his supporting memorandum, Abegunde alleged three different Brady violations, five ways in which his appellate counsel provided ineffective assistance, and two ways in which his trial counsel provided ineffective assistance. (ECF No. 1; ECF No. 23.) He asserted that he had a future sentence that he was challenging after the judgment, but did not explain what that sentence was. (ECF No. 1 at PageID 14.) As the Court noted in one of its previous orders, Abegunde was released from custody on February 22, 2023, about three months after he filed his petition. (ECF No. 21 at PageID 688 n.1 (citing https://www.bop.gov/mobile/find_inmate/byname.jsp (click “Find By Name”; then type “Olufolajimi” in the first name field and “Abegunde” in the last name field; then click “Search.”).) The Court explained that, “[t]ypically, petitioners no longer in custody cannot be granted relief under § 2255.” (Id. (citing *Pilla v. United States*, 668 F.3d 368, 372 (6th Cir. 2012).) Nevertheless, because Abegunde also was sentenced to three years of supervised release related to his underlying convictions, the Court explained that the “in custody requirement of § 2255” was satisfied. (Id. (citing *United States v. Holley*, No. 23-5903, 2024 WL 4554805, at *3 (6th Cir. Sept. 24, 2024).) During the pendency of his petition, however, the substance of Abegunde’s § 2255 Motion became moot as his supervised release term also expired. “Article III of the Constitution confines the judicial power of federal courts to deciding actual ‘Cases’ or ‘Controversies.’” *Hollingsworth v. Perry*, 570 U.S. 693, 704 (2013) (citing U.S. Const., art. III, § 2). This is “a cradle-to-grave requirement that must be met in order to file a claim in federal court and that must be met in order to keep it there.” *Fialka-Feldman v. Oakland Univ. Bd. of Trs.*, 639 F.3d 711, 713 (6th Cir. 2011). The mootness question turns on whether a federal court can afford a litigant any “effectual relief.” *Coalition for Gov’t Procurement v. Fed. Prison Indus., Inc.*, 365 F.3d 435, 458 (6th Cir. 2004). “An incarcerated convict’s (or a parolee’s) challenge to the validity of his conviction always satisfies the case-or-controversy requirement, because the incarceration (or the restriction imposed by the terms of the parole) constitutes a concrete injury, caused by the conviction and redressable by invalidation of the conviction.” *Spencer v. Kemna*, 523 U.S. 1, 7 (1998). Here, Abegunde has served the custodial sentence as well as his term of supervised release. “Once the convict’s sentence has expired . . . some concrete and continuing injury other than the now-ended incarceration or parole—some ‘collateral consequence’ of the conviction—must exist if the suit is to be maintained.” Id. Here, Abegunde’s petition and supporting memorandum do not suggest that there is any collateral consequence of his conviction that still exists after his supervised release expired. Accordingly, judgment on Abegunde’s behalf would not benefit him in any way. Therefore, the Court DENIES the § 2255 Motion. The § 2255 Motion is DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE. Judgment shall be entered for the United States. IT IS SO ORDERED, this 11th day of March, 2026. s/ Sheryl H. Lipman

SHERYL H. LIPMAN
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

