

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
MICHIGAN, SOUTHERN DIVISION

Barry Keith Riddick v. POAH Management Company, et al.

No. 25-cv-11913 (E.D. Mich. Dec. 24, 2025) · No. 25-cv-11913 · Decided December 24, 2025

SUMMARY

The court orders the U.S. Marshals Service to use reasonable efforts to locate and personally serve defendant Kellia Young after service by certified mail was not effective under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or Michigan law. The Marshals Service must report the results of its service attempt by February 23, 2026.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Southern Division
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Elizabeth A. Stafford
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Southern Division
DECIDED	December 24, 2025
DOCKET	25-cv-11913
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	In an action under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the pro se plaintiff proceeded in forma pauperis. After the U.S. Marshals Service attempted service on defendant Kellia Young by certified mail at her workplace, the magistrate judge determined that service was defective and directed the Marshals Service to make reasonable efforts to locate and personally serve Young.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 72(a), objections to the magistrate judge's nondispositive order may be sustained only if the order is clearly erroneous or contrary to law.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Nonprecedential district-court order
PARTIES	Barry Keith Riddick v. POAH Management Company, Kellia Young, Jane Doe supervisor of Kellia Young

TOPICS

service of process

civil procedure

credit reporting

PRACTICE AREAS

Civil procedure

Service of process

Fair Credit Reporting Act

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether service on Kellia Young was valid under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4.
2. Whether service on Young was valid under Michigan Court Rule 2.105(A).
3. What further service efforts the U.S. Marshals Service was required to make for an in forma pauperis plaintiff.

HOLDINGS

1. Service was not valid under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4(e) because Young was not personally served, the summons and complaint were not left at her dwelling or usual place of abode with a suitable resident, and Miranda White was not shown to be an agent authorized to accept service.
2. Service was not proper under Michigan Court Rule 2.105(A)(2) because the return receipt was not signed by Young, the addressee.
3. The U.S. Marshals Service was required to use reasonable efforts to locate and personally serve Young within 60 days and to report the results to the court by February 23, 2026.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Riddick brought a Fair Credit Reporting Act action against POAH Management Company, Kellia Young, and a Jane Doe supervisor. Proceeding in forma pauperis, he relied on the U.S. Marshals Service to serve Young. The Marshals Service sent certified mail, restricted delivery, to Young's workplace, but Miranda White signed the return receipt, and there was no indication that White was authorized to accept service for Young.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The district court granted Riddick leave to proceed in forma pauperis and ordered the U.S. Marshals Service to serve Young. The Marshals Service sent certified mail restricted to the addressee at Young's work address, but the return receipt was signed by Miranda White rather than Young. The matter was referred to Magistrate Judge Elizabeth A. Stafford for pretrial matters, and the magistrate judge issued this service-related order.

DISPOSITION

other

REMAND INSTRUCTIONS

No remand was ordered. The U.S. Marshals Service was directed to use reasonable efforts to locate and personally serve Kellia Young within 60 days and to inform the court of the results by February 23, 2026.

CASES CITED

- Byrd v. Stone, 94 F.3d 217, 219 (6th Cir. 1996)
- Donaldson v. United States, 35 F. App'x 184, 185 (6th Cir. 2002)
- Dortch v. First Fidelity Mortgage Co. of Michigan, 8 F. App'x 542, 546 (6th Cir. 2001)
- Richard v. Bouchard, No. 12-12516, 2013 WL 4417440, at *2 (E.D. Mich. Aug. 15, 2013)
- Johnson v. Herren, No. 2:13-cv-583, 2013 WL 6410447, at *2-*4 (S.D. Ohio Dec. 9, 2013)
- Reed-Bey v. Pramstaller, No. 06-CV-10934, 2013 WL 1183301, at *2 (E.D. Mich. Mar. 21, 2013)

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