

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF
LOUISIANA

Felicia Braden v. U S Postal Service et al.

No. 6:25-CV-01180, United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana (December 30, 2025)

SUMMARY

The magistrate judge recommends granting the United States’ Rule 12(b)(1) motion and dismissing the action without prejudice for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. The recommendation concludes that Felicia Braden filed her Federal Tort Claims Act action before six months had elapsed from the United States Postal Service’s receipt of her administrative claim, so the FTCA’s presentment and exhaustion requirements were not satisfied.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana, Lafayette Division
DECIDED	December 30, 2025
DOCKET	6:25-CV-01180
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Report and recommendation on motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished

TOPICS

- subject matter jurisdiction
- motions to dismiss
- civil procedure
- administrative law
- personal injury

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- administrative law
- personal injury

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court has subject matter jurisdiction over plaintiff's Federal Tort Claims Act claim when plaintiff filed suit less than six months after the agency received her administrative claim

HOLDINGS

1. The court lacks subject matter jurisdiction because plaintiff filed suit prematurely, before exhausting administrative remedies as required by 28 U.S.C. § 2675(a).

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Motor vehicle accident occurred on August 14, 2023, when a USPS truck collided with another vehicle, which then collided with plaintiff's vehicle. Plaintiff filed complaint on August 18, 2025. USPS received plaintiff's administrative claim (SF-95) on March 11, 2025, but plaintiff filed suit less than six months after agency receipt of claim.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff filed complaint on August 18, 2025. United States filed Rule 12(b)(1) motion to dismiss. Magistrate judge issued report and recommendation to grant motion and dismiss without prejudice.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- Williamson v. Tucker, 645 F.2d 404 (5th Cir. 1981)
- Spector v. L Q Motor Inns, Inc., 517 F.2d 278 (5th Cir. 1975)
- Mortensen v. First Fed. Savings & Loan Ass'n, 549 F.2d 844 (3rd Cir. 1977)
- Stanley v. Cent. Intel. Agency, 639 F.2d 1146 (5th Cir. 1981)
- Price v. United States, 69 F.3d 46 (5th Cir. 1995)
- Houston v. United States Postal Serv., 823 F.2d 896 (5th Cir. 1987)