

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Thompson v. State of California

Thompson · No. 2:24-cv-3389-SCR · Decided February 28, 2025

SUMMARY

The court recommends granting the plaintiff’s motion to remand after the operative amended complaint removed the only federal cause of action and left only state-law claims. The order also denies as moot the defendants’ request for clarification regarding screening and directs assignment to a district judge.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Sean C. Riordan
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
DECIDED	February 28, 2025
DOCKET	2:24-cv-3389-SCR
DISPOSITION	remanded
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff moved to remand a removed civil action after filing an amended complaint that deleted the only federal cause of action. The magistrate judge issued findings and recommendations recommending that the motion be granted and the case remanded to state court.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential

TOPICS

- subject matter jurisdiction
- civil procedure
- federalism

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- federal jurisdiction
- removal and remand

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the case should be remanded to the Sacramento County Superior Court after plaintiff deleted the only federal cause of action from the operative amended complaint.

2. Whether the federal court retained supplemental jurisdiction over the remaining state-law claims.

HOLDINGS

1. The court concluded that deletion of the only federal cause of action caused the federal court to lose supplemental jurisdiction over the remaining state-law claims, warranting remand to state court.
2. The magistrate judge recommended that plaintiff's motion to remand be granted and that the case be remanded to the Sacramento County Superior Court.

KEY QUOTATIONS

"The undersigned finds that a remand to the state court is warranted in this case because plaintiff deleted her only federal cause of action from the first amended complaint. As a result, this court lost supplemental jurisdiction over the state law claims which should be returned to state court." (at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiff, a former state prisoner proceeding through counsel, originally brought the action in Sacramento County Superior Court. After removal to federal court, she filed a first amended complaint that deleted the sole federal cause of action and left only state-law claims. Defendants filed a statement of non-opposition to plaintiff's motion to remand.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The action was removed from the Sacramento County Superior Court on December 4, 2024. Plaintiff filed a first amended complaint on December 27, 2024, asserting only state-law causes of action, and then moved to remand. Defendants did not oppose the motion. The magistrate judge recommended remand and directed that the matter be submitted to a district judge under 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1).

DISPOSITION

remanded

REMAND INSTRUCTIONS

The magistrate judge recommended remanding the case to the Sacramento County Superior Court, directing the Clerk to send a certified copy of the order to that court, and closing the federal case. The recommendation was subject to review by an assigned district judge under 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1).

CASES CITED

- Royal Canin U.S.A., Inc. v. Wulfschleger, 604 U.S. 22 (2025)
- Martinez v. Ylst, 951 F.2d 1153 (9th Cir. 1991)