

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
NORTH CAROLINA, WESTERN DIVISION**

Taurean Small v. Federal Trade Commission, et al.

Small · No. 5:25-cv-00330-M · Decided March 20, 2026

OPINION

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA WESTERN DIVISION Case No. 5:25-C V-00330-M TAUREAN SMALL, Plaintiff, V. ORDER FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION, et al., Defendants. This matter comes before the court on the Memorandum and Recommendation (“M&R”) prepared by United States Magistrate Judge Robert T. Numbers, II. DE 9. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 72(b), Judge Numbers allowed Plaintiff to proceed without paying a filing fee but recommended that this court dismiss Plaintiff's complaint for failing to state a viable claim.

DE 9. To date, no objections have been filed.! A magistrate judge’s recommendation carries no presumptive weight. The court “may accept, reject, or modify, in whole or in part, the... recommendation[]... receive further evidence or recommit the matter to the magistrate judge with instructions.” 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); accord *Mathews v. Weber*, 423 U.S. 261, 271 (1976).

The court “shall make a de novo determination of those portions of the report or specified proposed findings or recommendations to which objection is made.” /d. § 636(b)(1). Absent a specific and timely objection, the court reviews only for “clear Judge Numbers issued the M&R on October 14, 2025.

Accordingly, objections were due on or before October 31, 2025. See 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); FED. R. Civ. P. 72(b)(2); Local Civil Rule 72.4(b). The M&R was submitted to this court for disposition on November 14, 2025. error” and need not give any explanation for adopting the recommendation. *Diamond v. Colonial Life & Accident Ins. Co.*, 416 F.3d 310, 315 (4th Cir.

2005). Upon careful review of the M&R and the record presented, and finding no clear error, the court ADOPTS the recommendation of the magistrate judge as its own. For the reasons stated therein, Plaintiff's complaint, DE 1, is DISMISSED.

The Clerk of Court is directed to close this case. SO ORDERED this _!|% day of March, 2026.
one (V\ya0s RICHARD E. MYERS II CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE