

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
TEXAS, TYLER DIVISION

Robert Bacot v. Sgt. Deborah Crawford, et al.

Bacot · No. 6:24-cv-61-JDK-KNM · Decided February 24, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas adopts the magistrate judge’s report and recommendation in Robert Bacot’s prisoner civil rights action. Because Bacot did not object, the court reviewed the report for clear error and dismissed the lawsuit with prejudice for failure to state a claim under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1).

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, Tyler Division
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Jeremy D. Kernodle
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, Tyler Division
DECIDED	February 24, 2026
DOCKET	6:24-cv-61-JDK-KNM
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Order adopting a magistrate judge's report and recommendation and dismissing a prisoner's civil-rights complaint with prejudice for failure to state a claim under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1).
STANDARD OF REVIEW	When no objections are filed to a magistrate judge's report and recommendation, the district court reviews factual findings for clear error or abuse of discretion and legal conclusions to determine whether they are contrary to law.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished district court order; precedential status not designated in the source.
PARTIES	Robert Bacot v. Sgt. Deborah Crawford, et al.

TOPICS

- prisoners rights
- section 1983
- motions to dismiss
- civil procedure
- due process

PRACTICE AREAS

prisoner civil rights

federal civil procedure

constitutional law

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. What standard of review applies when a party fails to object to a magistrate judge's report and recommendation?
2. Whether the magistrate judge's recommendation to dismiss Bacot's prisoner civil-rights lawsuit with prejudice for failure to state a claim under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1) should be adopted.

HOLDINGS

1. When a party does not timely object to a magistrate judge's report and recommendation, the district court reviews the findings for clear error or abuse of discretion and reviews the legal conclusions to determine whether they are contrary to law.
2. The magistrate judge's recommendation to dismiss Bacot's lawsuit with prejudice for failure to state a claim under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1) was adopted, and the action was dismissed with prejudice.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The Court therefore reviews the Magistrate Judge’s findings for clear error or abuse of discretion and reviews the legal conclusions to determine whether they are contrary to law.”

“Accordingly, it ORDERED that Plaintiffs lawsuit is DISMISSED, with prejudice, under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1).”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Bacot was incarcerated in the Cherokee County Jail and filed a pro se, in forma pauperis civil-rights lawsuit alleging constitutional violations. The magistrate judge recommended dismissal under the prisoner-screening statute, and Bacot received the recommendation but did not object or otherwise respond.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Robert Bacot, a prisoner proceeding pro se and in forma pauperis, filed a civil-rights action concerning alleged constitutional violations while incarcerated in the Cherokee County Jail. Magistrate Judge K. Nicole Mitchell recommended dismissal with prejudice under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1). Bacot received the report and recommendation but filed no objections, so the district court reviewed the factual findings for clear error or abuse of discretion and the legal conclusions for conformity with law, adopted the recommendation, dismissed the action with prejudice, and denied pending motions as moot.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- *Douglass v. United Servs. Auto. Ass'n*, 79 F.3d 1415, 1430 (5th Cir. 1996) (en banc)
- *United States v. Wilson*, 864 F.2d 1219, 1221 (5th Cir. 1989), cert. denied, 492 U.S. 918 (1989)

OPINION

Bacot

PER CURIAM.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

TYLER DIVISION

ROBERT BACOT, #02493790, §

§ Plaintiff, § § v. § Case No. 6:24-cv-61-JDK-KNM § SGT. DEBORAH CRAWFORD, et al., § § Defendants. §

ORDER ADOPTING REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

OF THE UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Plaintiff Robert Bacot, a prisoner confined within the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) proceeding pro se and in forma pauperis, filed this civil rights lawsuit complaining of alleged violations of his constitutional rights while incarcerated in the Cherokee County Jail. The case was referred to the United States Magistrate Judge K. Nicole Mitchell for findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommendations for the disposition of the case. Judge Mitchell issued a Report and Recommendation (Docket No. 12) recommending that Plaintiff's lawsuit be dismissed, with prejudice, for the failure to state a claim upon which relief may be granted under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1). A copy of this Report was sent to Plaintiff with an acknowledgment card; the docket reflects that Plaintiff received a copy of the Report. Docket No. 13. However, to date, Plaintiff neither filed objections nor otherwise responded to the Report. This Court reviews the findings and conclusions of the Magistrate Judge de novo only if a party objects within fourteen days of service of the Report and Recommendation. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1). In conducting a de novo review, the Court examines the entire record and makes an independent assessment under the law. *Douglass v. United Servs. Auto. Assn*, 79 F.3d 1415, 1430 (5th Cir. 1996) (en bane), superseded on other grounds by statute, 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) (extending the time to file objections from ten to fourteen days). Here, Plaintiff did not object in the prescribed period. The Court therefore reviews the Magistrate Judge's findings for clear error or abuse of discretion and reviews the legal conclusions to determine whether they are contrary to law. See *United States v. Wilson*, 864 F.2d 1219, 1221 (5th Cir. 1989), cert. denied, 492 U.S. 918 (1989) (holding that, if no objections to a Magistrate Judge's Report are filed, the standard of review is "clearly erroneous, abuse of discretion and contrary to law."). Having reviewed the Magistrate Judge's Report and the record in this case, the Court finds no clear error or abuse of discretion and no conclusions contrary to law. Accordingly, the Court hereby ADOPTS the Report and Recommendation of the United States Magistrate Judge (Docket No. 12) as the findings of this Court. Accordingly, it ORDERED that

Plaintiffs lawsuit is DISMISSED, with prejudice, under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1). Any and all motions which may be pending in this case are DENIED as moot. So ORDERED and SIGNED this 24th day of February, 2026.

JHREMYD. KERN DLE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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