

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF
INDIANA, HAMMOND DIVISION

Karen P. Coleman v. Tradewind Services

Coleman · No. 2:25-CV-475-GSL-APR · Decided December 17, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana granted Plaintiff Karen P. Coleman's motion to remand after she withdrew her federal Americans with Disabilities Act claim and proceeded solely under state law. The Court concluded that it no longer had subject-matter jurisdiction and remanded the case to the Circuit Court of Lake County, Indiana.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana, Hammond Division
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Gretchen S. Lund
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana
DECIDED	December 17, 2025
DOCKET	2:25-CV-475-GSL-APR
DISPOSITION	remanded
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff moved to remand a removed disability-discrimination action to Indiana state court after representing that she was withdrawing her federal Americans with Disabilities Act claim and proceeding solely under state law.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court determined de novo whether subject matter jurisdiction existed and whether remand was required under 28 U.S.C. § 1447(c).
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	District court opinion with no reporter citation; precedential status is not stated in the source.

TOPICS

- subject matter jurisdiction
- civil procedure
- ada / disability
- disability discrimination

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- employment law
- civil rights
- disability discrimination

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court was required to remand the case after the plaintiff withdrew her federal ADA claim and represented that she would proceed solely under state law.
2. Whether the court retained subject matter jurisdiction over the action after no federal claim remained.

HOLDINGS

1. Because Plaintiff withdrew her ADA claim and no federal claim remained, the district court lacked subject matter jurisdiction and was required to remand the case to state court.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“If at any time before final judgment it appears that the district court lacks subject matter jurisdiction, the case shall be remanded.”

“Therefore, since there is no federal claim remaining in this matter, and noting no objection by Defendant, the Court no longer has subject matter jurisdiction over this case making remand necessary.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Karen P. Coleman, an Indiana resident, alleged that Tradewind Services, an Indiana corporation, discriminated against her based on a disability in violation of Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Indiana state law. After removal, Coleman represented that she was withdrawing her ADA claim and proceeding only under state law. Tradewind Services did not object to remand if the court accepted that representation.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff filed the action in the Circuit Court of Lake County, Indiana, on September 22, 2025. Defendant removed the case to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana on October 14, 2025, invoking federal-question jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and the removal statutes. Plaintiff moved to remand on November 3, 2025, and the court granted the motion, remanding the matter to the Circuit Court of Lake County and closing the federal case.

DISPOSITION

remanded

REMAND INSTRUCTIONS

The case was remanded to the Circuit Court of Lake County, Indiana, for further proceedings. The federal case was closed.

CASES CITED

- Sarauer v. International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers, District No. 10, 966 F.3d 661, 668 (7th Cir. 2020)

OPINION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA HAMMOND DIVISION KAREN P. COLEMAN, Plaintiff, v. Case No. 2:25-CV-475-GSL-APR TRADEWIND SERVICES, Defendant. OPINION AND ORDER This matter is before the Court on the Motion to Remand Case Back to Lake County Court [DE 7] filed by Plaintiff, Karen P. Coleman, on November 3, 2025. Defendant, Tradewind Services, filed its Response [DE 8] on November 14, 2025.

Plaintiff has not filed a reply and the time to do so has now passed. For the following reasons, the Motion [DE 7] is GRANTED. Discussion Plaintiff, an Indiana resident, initiated this case in the Circuit Court of Lake County, Indiana on September 22, 2025. [DE 3]. Plaintiff's Complaint alleges that Defendant, an Indiana Corporation, discriminated against her based on a disability in violation of Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Indiana state law.

[DE 3]. Defendant was properly served in this matter on September 29, 2025. [DE 1]. Then, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1441(a), and 1446, Defendant removed the case to this Court on October 14, 2025. [DE 1]. On November 3, 2025, Plaintiff filed the instant Motion to Remand [DE 7], requesting that the Court remand this matter back to state court. Specifically, she argues that "[t]his lawsuit is based on state disability rights laws ... I amend the complaint to remove all federal claims." [DE 7].

Defendant's response to Plaintiff's request, while not necessarily in opposition, is twofold. Defendant argues that without her federal claim, Plaintiff's Complaint must be dismissed because the Indiana Civil Rights Act ("ICRA") does not create a private cause of action. [DE 8 at 1]. But, at the same time, it acknowledges that "this is an argument for another motion ... [and] [i]f this Court takes Plaintiff at her word and finds that she is pursuing her claim under ICRA, Defendant has no objection [to remand]." [Id. at 3]. "If at any time before final judgment it appears that the district court lacks subject matter jurisdiction, the case shall be remanded." 28 U.S.C. § 1447(c); see also *Sarauer v. Int'l Ass'n of Machinists & Aerospace Workers*, Dist.

No. 10, 966 F.3d 661, 668 (7th Cir. 2020) (holding that "[a] motion to remand must be granted if the case removed from state court could not have been brought in federal court originally for lack of subject-matter jurisdiction").

In making her request to remand this matter back to state court, Plaintiff has represented that she is withdrawing her ADA claim against Defendant and is proceeding on a state law theory only. Therefore, since there is no federal claim remaining in this matter, and noting no objection by Defendant, the Court no longer has subject matter jurisdiction over this case making remand necessary.

Conclusion For these reasons, the Court GRANTS Plaintiff's Motion to Remand [DE 7] and REMANDS this matter to the Circuit Court of Lake County for further proceedings. This case is now closed. SO ORDERED. ENTERED: December 17, 2025 /s/ GRETCHEN S. LUND Judge
United States District Court

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