

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH
CAROLINA

Griffin v. Patterson, Hough, Meyers, Turner, and Gilreath

Griffin · No. 0:25-13095-MGL · Decided February 19, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the District of South Carolina adopted the magistrate judge’s report and recommendation after Plaintiff Terrance Griffin filed no objections. The court dismissed Griffin’s 42 U.S.C. § 1983 complaint without prejudice and without issuance or service of process, and notified him of his right to appeal.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of South Carolina
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Mary Geiger Lewis
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the District of South Carolina
DECIDED	February 19, 2026
DOCKET	0:25-13095-MGL
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	A self-represented state prisoner brought an action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. The district court reviewed a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation recommending dismissal without prejudice and without issuance and service of process.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	When specific objections are filed to a magistrate judge's report and recommendation, the district court conducts de novo review of the challenged portions under 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1). When no timely objection is filed, the district court need only determine whether there is clear error on the face of the record before accepting the recommendation.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished
PARTIES	Terrance Griffin v. Dennis Patterson, Pamela Hough, John/Jane Doe Meyers, John Doe Turner, Matthew Gilreath

TOPICS

prisoners rights

section 1983

appellate procedure

standard of review

civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

civil procedure

civil rights

prisoner litigation

appellate procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. What standard of review applies when a party files no objections to a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation?
2. Whether the court should adopt the Report and Recommendation and dismiss the § 1983 complaint without prejudice and without issuance and service of process.

HOLDINGS

1. When no timely objection is filed, the district court need not conduct de novo review and instead must satisfy itself that there is no clear error on the face of the record before accepting the recommendation.
2. The court adopted the magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation and dismissed the complaint without prejudice and without issuance and service of process.
3. A failure to object to a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation waives appellate review.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“It is therefore the judgment of the Court this case is DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE and without issuance and service of process.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Terrance Griffin, a self-represented state prisoner, filed a 42 U.S.C. § 1983 action against Dennis Patterson, Pamela Hough, John/Jane Doe Meyers, John Doe Turner, and Matthew Gilreath. The opinion does not set out the underlying factual allegations or the substantive grounds for dismissal because the district court adopted and incorporated the magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The magistrate judge filed the Report and Recommendation on January 27, 2026. Plaintiff filed no objections. The district court reviewed the record, adopted the Report and Recommendation, and dismissed the complaint without prejudice and without issuance and service of process.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- Mathews v. Weber, 423 U.S. 261, 270 (1976)

- *Diamond v. Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Co.*, 416 F.3d 310, 315 (4th Cir. 2005)
- *Wright v. Collins*, 766 F.2d 841, 845-46 (4th Cir. 1985)

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