

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA

Robert Bayard B. v. Frank Bisagnano

Bailey · No. 2:26-cv-00035-NJK · Decided January 9, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the District of Nevada grants Plaintiff Robert Bayard B.'s application to proceed in forma pauperis in a Social Security appeal. The court finds the complaint sufficient to survive screening under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e) and directs the Clerk to file the complaint and provide notice to the Commissioner pursuant to the Supplemental Rules for Social Security Cases.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of Nevada
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Nancy J. Koppe
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the District of Nevada
DECIDED	January 9, 2026
DOCKET	2:26-cv-00035-NJK
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff filed a Social Security appeal and requested leave to proceed in forma pauperis. The district court screened the complaint under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e).
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The complaint was screened under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e); the court assessed whether it stated a sufficient Social Security claim and satisfied basic pleading and jurisdictional requirements.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished district court order; nonprecedential
PARTIES	Robert Bayard B. v. Frank Bisagnano

TOPICS

- civil procedure
- administrative law
- exhaustion of remedies
- pleadings

PRACTICE AREAS

- Social Security
- Federal civil procedure
- Administrative law

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether plaintiff demonstrated sufficient inability to prepay fees or provide security to proceed in forma pauperis under 28 U.S.C. § 1915.
2. Whether the complaint satisfied the basic requirements for a Social Security appeal and was sufficient to survive screening under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e).

HOLDINGS

1. Plaintiff demonstrated an inability to prepay fees and costs or provide security, so the court granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis under 28 U.S.C. § 1915.
2. The complaint was sufficient to survive screening under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e).

KEY QUOTATIONS

“A central function of this screening process is to “discourage the filing of, and waste of judicial and private resources upon, baseless lawsuits that paying litigants generally do not initiate because of the cost of bringing suit.”” (at 1)

“The Court has reviewed the complaint and finds it sufficient to survive screening.” (at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Robert Bayard B. filed a complaint challenging a determination by the Social Security Administration and sought leave to proceed without prepaying filing fees. The application sufficiently demonstrated an inability to prepay fees or provide security. The court found the complaint sufficient to survive its initial in forma pauperis screening, although the opinion does not describe the underlying disability or administrative decision in detail.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff submitted an application to proceed in forma pauperis and a complaint. The court granted the application, found that the complaint was sufficient to survive screening, ordered the Clerk to file the complaint, and directed notice to the Commissioner under the Supplemental Rules for Social Security.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Neitzke v. Williams, 490 U.S. 319, 327 (1989)
- Graves v. Colvin, 2015 WL 357121, at *2 (D. Nev. Jan. 26, 2015)
- Jalal H. v. Commissioner of Social Security, 2023 WL 35218, at *2 (S.D. Cal. Jan. 4, 2023)

OPINION

1 2 3 4 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 5 DISTRICT OF NEVADA 6 7 Robert Bayard B.,
Case No. 2:26-cv-00035-NJK 8 Plaintiff, Order 9 v. [Docket No. 1] 10 Frank Bisagnano, 11

Defendant. 12 Plaintiff requests authority pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915 to proceed in forma pauperis 13 (Docket No. 1) and has submitted a complaint (Docket No. 1-1). 14 I. Application to Proceed In Forma Pauperis 15 Plaintiff filed an application to proceed in forma pauperis.

Docket No. 1. The application 16 has sufficiently shown an inability to prepay fees and costs or give security for them. Accordingly, 17 the application to proceed in forma pauperis will be granted pursuant to § 1915. 18 II. Screening the Complaint 19 When a party seeks permission to pursue a civil case in forma pauperis, courts will screen 20 the complaint.

See 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e). A central function of this screening process is to 21 “discourage the filing of, and waste of judicial and private resources upon, baseless lawsuits that 22 paying litigants generally do not initiate because of the cost of bringing suit.” *Neitzke v. Williams*, 23 490 U.S. 319, 327 (1989). 24 With respect to social security appeals specifically, judges in this District have outlined 25 some basic requirements for complaints to satisfy the Court’s screening.

First, the complaint must 26 establish that administrative remedies were exhausted pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 405(g), and that the 27 civil action was commenced within 60 days after notice of a final decision. Second, the complaint 28 must indicate the judicial district in which the plaintiff resides.

Third, the complaint must state the 1 nature of the plaintiff’s disability and when the plaintiff claims to have become disabled. Fourth, 2 the complaint must identify the nature of the plaintiff’s disagreement with the determination made 3 by the Social Security Administration and show that the plaintiff is entitled to relief. See, e.g., 4 *Graves v. Colvin*, 2015 WL 357121, *2 (D.

Nev. Jan. 26, 2015) (collecting cases).1 5 The Court has reviewed the complaint and finds it sufficient to survive screening. 6 III. Conclusion 7 Accordingly, the Court hereby ORDERS as follows: 8 1. Plaintiff’s request to proceed in forma pauperis is GRANTED with the caveat that the 9 fees must be paid if recovery is made. At this time, Plaintiff is not required to pre-pay 10 the filing fee.

11 2. Plaintiff is permitted to maintain this action to conclusion without the necessity of 12 prepayment of any additional fees or costs or the giving of a security therefor. The 13 Order granting leave to proceed in forma pauperis shall not extend to the issuance of 14 subpoenas at government expense. 15 3.

The Clerk of Court must file the Complaint. 16 4. The Clerk must provide notice of this action to the Commissioner pursuant to Rule 3 17 of the Supplemental Rules for Social Security. 18 5. From this point forward, Plaintiff must serve upon Defendant or, if appearance has been 19 entered by counsel, upon the attorney, a copy of every pleading, motion or other 20 document submitted for consideration by the court.

Plaintiff must include with the 21 original paper submitted for filing a certificate stating the date that a true and correct 22 copy of the document was personally served or sent by mail to the defendants or 23 counsel for the defendants.

The Court may disregard any paper received by a district 24 judge or magistrate judge which has not been filed with the Clerk, and any paper 25 26 1 New rules govern social security cases, which provide in pertinent part that the plaintiff “may” provide a short and plain statement of the grounds for relief. Supp. R. Soc. Sec. 2(b)(2). 27 In the context of an in forma pauperis screening, however, a social security plaintiff must still provide a sufficient explanation as to her contentions on appeal.

Jalal H. v. Comm’r of Soc. Sec., 28 2023 WL 35218, at *2 (S.D. Cal. Jan. 4, 2023).] received by a district judge, magistrate judge or the Clerk which fails to include a 2 certificate of service. 3 IT IS SO ORDERED. 4 Dated: January 9, 2026. UL Nancy J. Koppe 6 United States Magistrate Judge 4 8 9 10 1] 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28