

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH
CAROLINA, GREENVILLE DIVISION

Earnest Vaughn, Sr. a/k/a Earnest E. Vaughn a/k/a Earnest Edward
Vaughn a/k/a Earnest Edward Vaughn, Sr. v. SCDC Health Services,
Roxanne LaPointe, D. Phillips, S. Wachter, N. McFadden, Ofc.
Bowman, Dr. Way

Vaughn v. SCDC Health Services · No. 6:25-cv-13381-JDA-KFM · Decided December 10, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the District of South Carolina reviews a magistrate judge’s Report and Recommendation concerning Plaintiff’s motion for a preliminary injunction in a 42 U.S.C. § 1983 action. After conducting de novo review of the objections, record, and applicable law, the Court adopts the recommendation and denies the motion. The order also provides notice of Plaintiff’s right to appeal.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, Greenville Division
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Jacquelyn D. Austin
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, Greenville Division
DECIDED	December 10, 2025
DOCKET	6:25-cv-13381-JDA-KFM
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff moved for a preliminary injunction in a civil-rights action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. After the magistrate judge recommended denial and Plaintiff filed objections, the district court conducted de novo review and ruled on the motion.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The district court conducts de novo review of portions of a magistrate judge's report to which specific objections are made; absent a specific objection, review is for clear error. The court independently reviewed the report, record, and applicable law de novo.

PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished, nonprecedential district court order
PARTIES	Earnest Vaughn, Sr. a/k/a Earnest E. Vaughn a/k/a Earnest Edward Vaughn a/k/a Earnest Edward Vaughn, Sr. v. SCDC Health Services, Roxanne LaPointe, D. Phillips, S. Wachter, N. McFadden, Ofc. Bowman, Dr. Way

TOPICS

injunctions section 1983 prisoners rights civil rights civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

civil rights prisoner litigation civil procedure preliminary injunctions

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the magistrate judge's recommendation to deny Plaintiff's motion for a preliminary injunction should be accepted after review of Plaintiff's objections.
2. Whether Plaintiff demonstrated a likelihood of success on the merits sufficient to warrant preliminary injunctive relief.

HOLDINGS

1. The district court must conduct a de novo determination of any portion of the magistrate judge's report to which a specific objection is made, while clear-error review is sufficient in the absence of a specific objection.
2. Plaintiff's motion for a preliminary injunction was denied because he failed to show that he was likely to succeed on the merits of his claims.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“in the absence of a timely filed objection, a district court need not conduct a de novo review, but instead must only satisfy itself that there is no clear error on the face of the record in order to accept the recommendation” (416 F.3d at 315)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiff, proceeding pro se and apparently incarcerated, brought a civil-rights action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 against SCDC Health Services and several individual defendants. He sought a preliminary injunction, but the magistrate judge concluded that he had not demonstrated a likelihood of success on the merits. The district court's order does not recount the underlying factual allegations in detail.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff filed a § 1983 complaint and motion for a preliminary injunction on November 12, 2025. The magistrate judge recommended denying the injunction because Plaintiff had not shown a likelihood of success

on the merits. Plaintiff objected, and the district court conducted a de novo review before accepting the recommendation and denying the motion.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Mathews v. Weber, 423 U.S. 261, 270–71 (1976)
- Diamond v. Colonial Life & Accident Ins., 416 F.3d 310, 315 (4th Cir. 2005)

Retrieved from lawtools.ai · <https://lawtools.ai/cases/federal/united-states-district-court-for-the-district-of-south-carol/2025/earnest-vaughn-sr-a-k-a-earnest-e-vaughn-a-k-a-earnest-fqkuk41s>