

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
VIRGINIA, ALEXANDRIA DIVISION

Board of Trustees, Sheet Metal Workers' National Pension Fund, et
al. v. C & F Fabricators, Inc.

Board of Trustees v. C & F Fabricators · No. 1:25-cv-266 (RDA/WBP) · Decided March 4, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia adopted a magistrate judge’s Report and Recommendation and granted the plaintiffs’ motion for default judgment against C & F Fabricators, Inc. The court ordered entry of judgment totaling \$708,060.25, plus \$5,992.68 in attorneys’ fees and costs, for unpaid pension-fund contributions, interest, and liquidated damages.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria Division
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Rossie D. Alston, Jr.
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria Division
DECIDED	March 4, 2026
DOCKET	1:25-cv-266 (RDA/WBP)
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The Court reviewed a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation recommending that Plaintiffs' Motion for Default Judgment be granted. No objections were filed.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	In the absence of objections to a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation, the Court reviews the record for clear error rather than conducting de novo review.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unknown
PARTIES	Board of Trustees, Sheet Metal Workers' National Pension Fund, et al. v. C & F Fabricators, Inc.

TOPICS

default judgment

default

attorney fees

damages

erisa

PRACTICE AREAS

ERISA

employee benefits

civil procedure

remedies

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should approve and adopt the magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation when no objections were filed and the record showed no clear error.
2. Whether Plaintiffs were entitled to default judgment under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55 for the claimed unpaid contributions, interest, liquidated damages, attorneys' fees, and costs.

HOLDINGS

1. When no objections are filed to a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation, the district court need not conduct de novo review and may accept the recommendation after satisfying itself that there is no clear error on the face of the record.
2. Plaintiffs were entitled to default judgment against C & F Fabricators, Inc. under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55 in the total amount of \$708,060.25, plus \$5,992.68 in attorneys' fees and costs.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“in the absence of any objections to a Magistrate Judge’s Recommendation, the 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’””

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiffs sought unpaid pension-fund contributions for January 2023 through December 2024, along with interest and liquidated damages. The order also awarded interest and liquidated damages on certain late contributions and attorneys' fees and costs.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiffs moved for default judgment against C & F Fabricators, Inc. Magistrate Judge William E. Fitzpatrick recommended granting the motion, and the district court found no clear error, approved and adopted the Report and Recommendation, entered default judgment, awarded the specified amounts, and directed that the case be closed.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- *Diamond v. Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Co.*, 416 F.3d 310, 315 (4th Cir. 2005)

OPINION

Board of Trustees, Sheet Metal Workers' National Pension Fund, et al. v. C & F Fabricators, Inc.
PER CURIAM.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

Alexandria Division

BOARD OF TRUSTEES, SHEET METAL)
WORKERS' NATIONAL PENSION)

FUND, et al.,)) Plaintiffs,)) v.) Civil Action No. 1:25-cv-266 (RDA/WBP))

C & F FABRICATORS, INC.,)

) Defendant.)

ORDER

This matter comes before the Court on U.S. Magistrate Judge William E. Fitzpatrick's Report and Recommendation ("Report") (Dkt. 13) as well as Plaintiffs' Motion for Default Judgment (Dkt. 7). Judge Fitzpatrick recommends that the Court grant the Motion and enter default judgment against Defendant C & F Fabricators, Inc. Dkt. 13. The deadline for submitting objections to the Report was October 10, 2025. To date, no objections have been filed. After reviewing the record and Judge Fitzpatrick's Report, and finding no clear error,' the Court hereby APPROVES and ADOPTS the Report (Dkt. 13). Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that Plaintiffs' Motion (Dkt. 7) is GRANTED; and it is FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of Court is DIRECTED to enter DEFAULT JUDGMENT, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55, in favor of Plaintiffs and against Defendant C & F Fabricators, Inc. in the total amount of f \$708,060.25 which is comprised of: (i) ' See *Diamond v. Colonial Life & Acc. Ins. Co.*, 416 F.3d 310, 315 (4th Cir. 2005) (in the absence of any objections to a Magistrate Judge's Recommendation, the 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'"). \$508,591.99 in unpaid contributions for the months of January 2023 through December 2024; (ii) \$82,968.25 in interest calculated at the rate of 0.0233% per day, compounded daily, on all unpaid contributions (calculated through June 30, 2025); (iii) \$101,718.40 in liquidated damages equal to 20% of the unpaid contributions; (iv) \$2,507.40 in interest calculated at the rate of .233% per day, compounded daily, on all late contributions due for certain months between December 2022 through December 2024 (calculated through June 30, 2025); and (v) \$12,274.22 in liquidated damages equal to ten percent (10%) of the contributions due for each month of contributions that C&F failed to pay within 30 days after the due date, but paid before the lawsuit was filed: and it is FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant is DIRECTED to pay Plaintiffs' attorneys' fees and costs in the amount of \$5,992.68: and it is FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Court is DIRECTED to place this matter among the ended causes. IT IS SO ORDERED. Alexandria, Virginia March 4, 2026 Rossie D. Alston, Jr.

