

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)

