

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
GEORGIA

Sheri Goros and Timothy Goros v. Auto-Owners Insurance Company
d/b/a Auto-Owners Insurance

Goros · No. 4:24-cv-223 · Decided January 28, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia administratively closed the action after the parties reported reaching a settlement of all claims. The order allows the parties 45 days to file a dismissal judgment incorporating the settlement or a joint stipulation of dismissal, warning that the case will otherwise be dismissed with prejudice.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia
WRITING FOR THE COURT	R. Stan Baker, Chief Judge
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia
DECIDED	January 28, 2026
DOCKET	4:24-cv-223
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Following the parties' notice that they had reached a settlement of all claims, the court administratively closed the action and provided procedures for filing a dismissal or reopening the case.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished district court order with limited precedential value.
PARTIES	Sheri Goros, Timothy Goros v. Auto-Owners Insurance Company d/b/a Auto-Owners Insurance

TOPICS

- civil procedure
- insurance

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- insurance

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should administratively close the action after the parties reported reaching a settlement.
2. What procedure should govern dismissal and possible retention of jurisdiction to enforce the settlement agreement.

HOLDINGS

1. When the parties report that they have settled all claims but have not yet completed settlement documents, the court may administratively close the action while allowing the parties time to finalize dismissal.
2. The parties may present a dismissal judgment under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(a)(2) incorporating their settlement terms so that the court may retain jurisdiction to enforce the agreement; otherwise, they may file a joint stipulation of dismissal, subject to dismissal with prejudice if they do not timely complete the dismissal process.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Accordingly, the Court DIRECTS the Clerk of Court to ADMINISTRATIVELY CLOSE this action.”

“If the parties fail to file a dismissal (or, if necessary, move to reopen the case) within forty-five (45) days, the Court will sua sponte dismiss the case with prejudice.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The parties reported that they had reached a settlement resolving all claims and were in the process of completing settlement documents. Based on that representation, the court administratively closed the action and established a deadline for the parties to finalize dismissal procedures.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The parties advised the court that they had reached a settlement and were completing settlement documents. The court administratively closed the case, allowed forty-five days for the parties to submit a dismissal judgment or joint stipulation of dismissal, and stated that it would dismiss the action with prejudice if no dismissal or motion to reopen was filed.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Heape v. Flanagan, No. 6:07-CV-12, 2008 WL 2439736 (S.D. Ga. June 9, 2008)
- Kokkonen v. Guardian Life Insurance Co. of America, 511 U.S. 375, 381-82 (1994)

OPINION

Goros

PER CURIAM.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
SAVANNAH DIVISION

SHERI GOROS; and TIMOTHY GOROS,
Plaintiffs, CIVIL ACTION NO.: 4:24-cv-223 v.
AUTO-OWNERS INSURANCE COMPANY
d/b/a AUTO-OWNERS INSURANCE,
Defendant.

O R D E R

On January 23, 2026, the parties, through their counsel, advised the Court that they “have reached a settlement of all claims in this action and are in the process of completing settlement documents.” (See doc. 48.) Accordingly, the Court DIRECTS the Clerk of Court to ADMINISTRATIVELY CLOSE this action. See *Heape v. Flanagan*, No. 6:07-CV-12, 2008 WL 2439736 (S.D. Ga. June 9, 2008). Within forty-five (45) days of the date this Order is entered, the parties—if they wish— may present a dismissal judgment, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(a)(2), incorporating the terms of their settlement, so the Court may retain jurisdiction to enforce the agreement. In the alternative, the parties may simply file a joint stipulation of dismissal. If the parties fail to file a dismissal (or, if necessary, move to reopen the case) within forty-five (45) days, the Court will sua sponte dismiss the case with prejudice. *Kokkonen v. Guardian Life Ins. Co. of Am.*, 511 U.S. 375, 381-82 (1994). SO ORDERED, this 28th day of January, 2026.

R. STAN BAKER, CHIEF JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA