

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
TEXAS, TYLER DIVISION

John Lamaster v. Commissioner, Social Security Administration

Lamaster · No. 6:25-cv-308-JDK-KNM · Decided March 16, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas adopts a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation in a Social Security disability benefits appeal. The court grants the Commissioner's motion to reverse and remand, reverses the final administrative decision, and remands the matter for further administrative proceedings under the fourth sentence of 42 U.S.C. § 405(g).

OPINION

Lamaster

PER CURIAM.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
TYLER DIVISION

JOHN LAMASTER, §

§ Plaintiff, § § v. § Case No. 6:25-cv-308-JDK-KNM §

COMMISSIONER, SOCIAL §

SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, §

§ Defendant. §

ORDER ADOPTING THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION
OF THE UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Plaintiff John Lamaster filed this appeal from a final administrative decision of the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration denying his application for disability insurance benefits and supplemental security income. The case was referred to United States Magistrate Judge K. Nicole Mitchell for findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommendations for disposition. Before the Court is the Commissioner's motion to reverse and remand. Docket No. 14. On February 27, 2026, Judge Mitchell issued a Report recommending that the Court grant the motion. Docket No. 15. The Report recommends that the Court reverse the Commissioner's final administrative decision and remand this matter to the Commissioner for further administrative proceedings. No written objections have been filed. This Court reviews the findings and conclusions of the Magistrate Judge de novo only if a party objects within fourteen days of service of the Report and Recommendation. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1). In conducting a de novo review, the Court examines the

entire record and makes an independent assessment under the law. *Douglass v. United Servs. Auto. Assn.*, 79 F.3d 1415, 1430 (5th Cir. 1996) (en bane), superseded on other grounds by statute, 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) (extending the time to file objections from ten to fourteen days). The parties did not object in the prescribed period. The Court therefore reviews the Magistrate Judge's findings for clear error or abuse of discretion and reviews the legal conclusions to determine whether they are contrary to law. See *United States v. Wilson*, 864 F.2d 1219, 1221 (5th Cir. 1989), cert. denied, 492 U.S. 916 (1989) (holding that the standard of review is "clearly erroneous, abuse of discretion and contrary to law" if no objections to a Magistrate Judge's Report are filed). Having reviewed the Magistrate Judge's Report and the record in this case, the Court finds no clear error or abuse of discretion and no conclusions contrary to law. Accordingly, the Court hereby ADOPTS the Report and Recommendation of the United States Magistrate Judge (Docket No. 15) as the findings of this Court. The motion to reverse and remand (Docket No. 14) is GRANTED. The Commissioner's final administrative decision is REVERSED and the matter is REMANDED to the Commissioner for further administrative proceedings pursuant to the fourth sentence of 42 U.S.C. § 405(g). So ORDERED and SIGNED this 16th day of March, 2026.

JHREMYJD. KERN DLE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE