

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
WEST VIRGINIA

Quantel Saunders v. SIS LT Denney et al.

Saunders · No. 5:25-cv-00561 · Decided April 17, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia adopts a magistrate judge’s proposed findings and recommendation in Quantel Saunders’s Bivens action. The court denies Saunders’s application to proceed without prepayment of fees and costs, dismisses the complaint, and dismisses the matter because no timely objections were filed.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia
DECIDED	April 17, 2026
DOCKET	5:25-cv-00561
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The district court reviewed a magistrate judge's proposed findings and recommendation after the plaintiff failed to file objections. The court adopted the PF&R, denied the application to proceed without prepayment of fees and costs, dismissed the Bivens complaint, and dismissed the matter.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court need not conduct de novo review of portions of a magistrate judge's PF&R to which no timely objection is made, and it need not conduct de novo review of general and conclusory objections that fail to identify a specific error.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished district court order; precedential status not stated
PARTIES	Quantel Saunders v. SIS LT Denney, SIS Sweeney, SIS Duncan, SIS Stennett, SHU 1 CO Ayers, SHU 1 CO Woods, CO Privete, CO Kinkaid, CO Farrish, CO Scarbro, CO Mills, Warden Holzapfel, Ass Warden Howell, Capt Metzger, Unit Manager Smith, Case Manager McCoy, LT Bailey, Counselor Humpheries, Hill, Head R&D/Post Office/Mail Room

TOPICS

civil procedure

prisoners rights

civil rights

PRACTICE AREAS

Federal civil procedure

Prisoner civil rights

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the district court was required to conduct de novo review of the magistrate judge's PF&R when the plaintiff filed no objections.
2. Whether the court should adopt the PF&R, deny the application to proceed without prepayment of fees and costs, and dismiss the complaint.

HOLDINGS

1. The district court was not required to conduct de novo or other review of the magistrate judge's factual or legal conclusions because Saunders filed no timely objections.
2. Failure to file timely objections to the PF&R constitutes a waiver of de novo review and the right to appeal the district court's order on the recommended matters.
3. The court adopted the PF&R, denied Saunders's application to proceed without prepayment of fees and costs, dismissed the complaint, and dismissed the matter.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Accordingly, the Court ADOPTS the PF&R [ECF 9], DENIES the Application to Proceed without Prepayment of Fees and Costs [ECF 1], DISMISSES the Complaint [ECF 2], and DISMISSES the matter.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Saunders filed a Bivens complaint and an application to proceed without prepayment of fees and costs. A magistrate judge recommended denying the application and dismissing the complaint. Saunders did not object to the PF&R by the extended deadline.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Saunders filed an application to proceed without prepayment of fees and costs and a Bivens complaint on September 22, 2025. The matter was referred to Magistrate Judge Omar J. Aboulhosn, who issued a PF&R on January 16, 2026, recommending denial of the application and dismissal of the complaint. After receiving an extension of time, Saunders filed no objections by the April 13, 2026 deadline, and the district court adopted the PF&R and dismissed the action.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- Bivens v. Six Unknown Federal Agents of Federal Bureau of Narcotics, 403 U.S. 388 (1971)
- Thomas v. Arn, 474 U.S. 140 (1985)
- United States v. De Leon-Ramirez, 925 F.3d 177, 181 (4th Cir. 2019)
- Snyder v. Ridenour, 889 F.2d 1363, 1366 (4th Cir. 1989)
- Orpiano v. Johnson, 687 F.2d 44, 47 (4th Cir. 1982)

Retrieved from lawtools.ai · <https://lawtools.ai/cases/state/united-states-district-court-for-the-southern-district-of-west-virginia-united-states-district-court/2026/quantel-saunders-v-sis-lt-denney-et-al-lpizus3k>