

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Jesscenia D. Perez v. Commissioner of Social Security

Perez v. Commissioner of Social Security · No. 1:25-cv-01351-CDB (SS) · Decided October 14, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of California grants Jesscenia D. Perez’s application to proceed in forma pauperis in an action seeking judicial review of the Commissioner of Social Security’s denial of disability benefits. The court finds the complaint timely, cognizable, and within its jurisdiction under 42 U.S.C. § 405(g). The court directs the Clerk to issue a summons, scheduling order, and consent or reassignment documents.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
DECIDED	October 14, 2025
DOCKET	1:25-cv-01351-CDB (SS)
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff filed an action seeking judicial review of the Commissioner's final decision denying disability benefits and applied to proceed in forma pauperis. The court granted the application, found the complaint cognizable and timely, and directed issuance of the summons and case-management documents.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	For in forma pauperis screening, the court must dismiss a complaint that is frivolous, malicious, fails to state a claim, or seeks monetary relief from an immune defendant. The court applies the Rule 8 and plausibility standards in determining whether the complaint states a cognizable claim.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished
PARTIES	Jesscenia D. Perez v. Commissioner of Social Security

TOPICS

- judicial review of agency action
- administrative law
- pleadings
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

Social Security

administrative law

civil procedure

in forma pauperis proceedings

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Plaintiff satisfied the requirements for proceeding in forma pauperis under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a).
2. Whether the complaint was subject to dismissal during in forma pauperis screening under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1915(b) and (e)(2).
3. Whether the complaint timely and plausibly invoked jurisdiction for judicial review of the Commissioner's final decision under 42 U.S.C. § 405(g).

HOLDINGS

1. Plaintiff satisfied the requirements of 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a), so the court granted her application to proceed in forma pauperis.
2. The complaint was not subject to dismissal at the screening stage because it stated a cognizable claim for review of the administrative decision denying Social Security benefits.
3. The court had jurisdiction because Plaintiff alleged residence in Merced County, California and filed the complaint within sixty days after the Appeals Council denied review.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“A complaint must include a statement affirming the court’s jurisdiction, “a short and plain statement of the claim showing the pleader is entitled to relief; and a demand for the relief sought, which may include relief in the alternative or different types of relief.”” (at 2)

“Plaintiff’s complaint states a cognizable claim for review of the administrative decision denying Social Security benefits.” (at 4)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiff sought disability benefits from the Social Security Administration, but an Administrative Law Judge denied her claim. The Appeals Council denied review on August 11, 2025. Plaintiff filed this action on October 10, 2025, seeking judicial review of the Commissioner's final decision and submitted an application to proceed without prepaying the filing fee.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The Appeals Council denied Plaintiff's request for review of an Administrative Law Judge's denial of benefits on August 11, 2025. Plaintiff filed this action on October 10, 2025, asserting that she resided in Merced County, California and seeking review under 42 U.S.C. § 405(g).

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Denton v. Hernandez, 504 U.S. 25, 32-33 (1992)
- Swierkiewicz v. Sorema N.A., 534 U.S. 506, 512 (2002)
- Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 556 U.S. 662, 678-79 (2009)
- Ivey v. Board of Regents, 673 F.2 266, 268 (9th Cir. 1981)
- Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly, 550 U.S. 544, 556, 570 (2007)
- Lopez v. Smith, 203 F.3d 1122, 1127-28 (9th Cir. 2000) (en banc)

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