

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Sylvia Avilez Florez v. Commissioner of Social Security

Florez · No. 1:25-cv-01892-CDB · Decided December 18, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of California granted Sylvia Avilez Florez’s application to proceed in forma pauperis in an action seeking review of the Commissioner of Social Security’s denial of disability benefits. The court found the complaint timely, jurisdictionally sufficient, and cognizable under 42 U.S.C. § 405(g). The court directed 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	December 18, 2025
DOCKET	1:25-cv-01892-CDB
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff filed an action seeking judicial review of the Commissioner of Social Security's final decision denying disability benefits and applied to proceed in forma pauperis. The court considered the application and screened the complaint.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Under 28 U.S.C. § 1915, the court reviews an in forma pauperis complaint and must dismiss it if it is frivolous, malicious, fails to state a claim, or seeks monetary relief from an immune defendant. For pleading sufficiency, the complaint must contain enough factual matter to state a plausible claim for relief.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished district court order; nonprecedential

TOPICS

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

PRACTICE AREAS

- Social Security
- Federal civil procedure
- Administrative law

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Plaintiff satisfied the requirements to proceed in forma pauperis under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a).
2. Whether the complaint stated a cognizable and timely claim for judicial review of the Commissioner's final Social Security decision.
3. Whether the court had jurisdiction over the action under 42 U.S.C. § 405(g).

HOLDINGS

1. Plaintiff satisfied the requirements of 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a), and the application to proceed in forma pauperis was granted.
2. The complaint stated a cognizable claim for review of the administrative decision denying Social Security benefits and supplemental income.
3. The complaint was timely, and the court had jurisdiction over the action.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“A claim has facial plausibility when the plaintiff pleads factual content that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged.” (at 1)

“The Court may grant leave to amend a complaint to the extent deficiencies of the complaint can be cured by an amendment.” (at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiff sought review of the Commissioner's final decision denying disability insurance benefits and supplemental income. The Appeals Council denied review on October 21, 2025, and Plaintiff filed the federal complaint on December 17, 2025. Plaintiff alleged residency in Tulare County, California, and submitted a financial affidavit stating that she could not pay the filing fee.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The Appeals Council denied Plaintiff's request for review on October 21, 2025. Plaintiff filed this action on December 17, 2025, within the period allowed for judicial review, and simultaneously filed an application to proceed in forma pauperis. The district court granted the application, found the complaint stated a cognizable claim for review, and directed the Clerk to issue the summons and other case documents.

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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