

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
TEXAS, HOUSTON DIVISION

Shameeka L. Jones v. Securitas Security Services USA, Inc.

Jones · No. 4:25-cv-01726 · Decided March 11, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas adopted a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation recommending remand for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. The court found no clear error and remanded the employment discrimination and retaliation action to the 133rd Judicial District Court of Harris County, Texas.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Charles Eskridge
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas
DECIDED	March 11, 2026
DOCKET	4:25-cv-01726
DISPOSITION	remanded
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff filed an employment-discrimination and retaliation action in Texas state court. Defendant removed the action to federal court, and a magistrate judge recommended remand for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. The district court adopted the recommendation and remanded the case.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The district court reviews de novo those portions of a magistrate judge's report and recommendation to which a party specifically objects. Unobjected-to portions may be accepted if no clear error appears on the face of the record.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished district court order

TOPICS

- subject matter jurisdiction
- civil procedure
- employment discrimination
- retaliation

PRACTICE AREAS

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the district court should adopt the magistrate judge's recommendation to remand the removed action for lack of subject matter jurisdiction.
2. Whether the absence of specifically pleaded federal claims and the failure to establish the amount-in-controversy requirement required remand.

HOLDINGS

1. The action must be remanded because the pleadings did not assert a federal-law claim and the removing defendant failed to establish that the amount-in-controversy requirement for diversity jurisdiction was satisfied.
2. The district court may accept unobjected-to portions of a magistrate judge's recommendation when satisfied that no clear error appears on the face of the record.

KEY QUOTATIONS

"This case is REMANDED to the 133rd Judicial District, Harris County, Texas." (Order)

"The Report and Recommendation of the Magistrate Judge is ADOPTED as the Report and Order of this Court." (Order)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Jones alleged employment discrimination and retaliation against Securitas Security Services USA, Inc. in a state-court petition. Securitas removed the action to federal court, asserting diversity jurisdiction. The record did not establish that Jones pleaded any federal-law claim or that the amount in controversy exceeded the jurisdictional threshold.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Shameeka L. Jones, proceeding pro se, filed an original petition against Securitas Security Services USA, Inc. in the 133rd Judicial District Court of Harris County, Texas. Securitas removed the case based on diversity jurisdiction. Magistrate Judge Dena Hanovice Palermo recommended remand because Jones did not plead federal-law claims and Securitas failed to establish that the amount-in-controversy requirement was satisfied. No party objected, and the district court adopted the Report and Recommendation and remanded the case.

DISPOSITION

remanded

REMAND INSTRUCTIONS

The case is remanded to the 133rd Judicial District Court, Harris County, Texas. The clerk must provide a copy of the order to the clerk of that court.

CASES CITED

- United States v. Wilson, 864 F.2d 1219, 1221 (5th Cir. 1989) (per curiam)
- Guillory v. PPG Industries, Inc., 434 F.3d 303, 308 (5th Cir. 2005)
- Douglass v. United Services Automobile Association, 79 F.3d 1415, 1430 (5th Cir. 1996) (en banc)

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