

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

GoClips, LLC, and Z Keepers, LLC v. Along Tools, Inc, and Rizhao
Along Abrasive Tools Co LTD

GoClips · No. 4:25-cv-00355 · Decided March 16, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas adopted a magistrate judge’s Memorandum and Recommendation concerning Plaintiffs’ motion for default judgment in a patent infringement action. The court overruled Plaintiffs’ objections regarding service on Rizhao Along Abrasive Tools Co. Ltd., granted default judgment against Along Tools, Inc., and denied it as to Rizhao. Along Tools was found liable for direct infringement and permanently enjoined from further infringing the ’754 patent.

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, Houston Division
DECIDED	March 16, 2026
DOCKET	4:25-cv-00355
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiffs objected to a magistrate judge's Memorandum and Recommendation concerning their motion for default judgment in a patent-infringement action.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The district court reviews de novo those portions of a magistrate judge's recommendation to which a party specifically objects and may accept unobjected-to portions absent clear error on the face of the record.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unknown; district court order adopting a magistrate judge's Memorandum and Recommendation.

PARTIES

GoClips, LLC, Z Keepers, LLC v. Along Tools, Inc., Rizhao Along Abrasive Tools Co. Ltd.

TOPICS

default judgment

service of process

patent infringement

injunctions

civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

civil procedure

patent law

patent infringement

remedies

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether service on Andy Zhao constituted adequate service on Rizhao Along Abrasive Tools Co. under Nevada law.
2. Whether Plaintiffs' supplemental declaration should be considered after the magistrate judge issued the Memorandum and Recommendation.
3. Whether default judgment should be entered against Along Tools, Inc. and Rizhao Along Abrasive Tools Co.

HOLDINGS

1. Plaintiffs failed to establish that service on Andy Zhao constituted adequate service on Rizhao under Nevada law; default judgment was therefore denied as to Rizhao.
2. The supplemental declaration was rejected as improperly submitted.
3. Default judgment was properly entered against Along Tools, Inc. for direct infringement of the asserted '754 patent, and Along Tools was permanently enjoined from further infringement.

KEY QUOTATIONS

"The Memorandum and Recommendation of the Magistrate Judge is ADOPTED as the Memorandum and Order of this Court."

"It is thus found to be liable for direct patent infringement as asserted and permanently enjoined from further infringing the '754 patent."

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

GoClips, LLC, and Z Keepers, LLC, brought a patent-infringement action against Along Tools, Inc., and Rizhao Along Abrasive Tools Co. Plaintiffs obtained entries of default against both defendants and moved for default judgment. The court found insufficient evidence of Andy Zhao's role in Rizhao, making it unclear whether service on Zhao constituted adequate service on Rizhao under Nevada law. The court entered default judgment and a permanent injunction against Along Tools, Inc., but denied default judgment as to Rizhao.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiffs sued Defendants for patent infringement and obtained entries of default against both Defendants. The magistrate judge recommended granting default judgment against Along Tools, Inc., but denying it as to Rizhao Along Abrasive Tools Co. for lack of proper service. Plaintiffs objected only to the service ruling concerning Rizhao and submitted a supplemental declaration. The district court conducted de novo review of the objected-to portion, overruled the objections, adopted the Memorandum and Recommendation, and granted default judgment against Along Tools while denying it as to Rizhao.

DISPOSITION

other

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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