

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
FLORIDA

Onemata Corporation v. Ashfaq Rahman, an individual, et al.

Onemata Corp. v. Rahman · No. 0:20-cv-62002-WPD · Decided February 23, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida adopted a magistrate judge’s Report and Recommendation concerning diversity jurisdiction, letters rogatory, and sanctions in Onemata Corporation’s action against Ashfaq Rahman and other defendants. The court overruled the objections, granted in part the motion for issuance of letters rogatory directed to the Cook Islands courts, and denied the motion for sanctions without prejudice.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida
WRITING FOR THE COURT	William P. Dimitrouleas
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida
DECIDED	February 23, 2026
DOCKET	0:20-cv-62002-WPD
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The district court reviewed a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation after considering timely objections by several parties. The court conducted de novo review of the objected-to portions, approved the Report and Recommendation, overruled the objections, partially granted a motion for letters rogatory, and denied a sanctions motion without prejudice.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	De novo review of the portions of a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation to which timely and specific objections are made, under 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1).
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unreported federal district court omnibus order; precedential status not stated.

TOPICS

- subject matter jurisdiction
- sanctions
- civil procedure
- third party practice

PRACTICE AREAS

Civil procedure

Federal jurisdiction

Sanctions

International judicial assistance

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the parties' objections to the magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation warranted relief after de novo review.
2. Whether the record established complete diversity as to all relevant parties, including CSB and HomeLien.
3. Whether CSB and HomeLien were entitled to issuance of letters rogatory directed to the Cook Islands courts.
4. Whether Onemata's motion for sanctions should be granted.

HOLDINGS

1. When a party makes a timely and specific objection to a finding in a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation, the district court must conduct de novo review of the portions objected to; the court may accept, reject, or modify the findings or recommendations in whole or in part.
2. The record established complete diversity between Onemata and the Nevada entities, but uncertainty remained regarding the citizenship of CSB and HomeLien; additional procedures were therefore required to determine whether complete diversity existed as to those foreign LLCs.
3. CSB and HomeLien's motion for issuance of letters rogatory was granted in part, with the parties directed to meet and confer and file a joint application directed to the Cook Islands courts.
4. Onemata's motion for sanctions was denied without prejudice.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“If a party makes a timely and specific objection to a finding in the report and recommendation, the district court must conduct a de novo review of the portions of the report to which objection is made.”

“It is critical that the objection be sufficiently specific and not a general objection to the report.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The record established complete diversity between Onemata and the Nevada entities. The citizenship of CSB and HomeLien remained uncertain, requiring additional procedures to determine whether complete diversity existed as to those foreign limited liability companies. CSB and HomeLien sought issuance of letters rogatory directed to the Cook Islands courts, and Onemata sought sanctions.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Magistrate Judge Alicia O. Valle issued a January 23, 2026 Report and Recommendation concerning the parties' objections, diversity allegations, letters rogatory, and sanctions. Onemata filed a notice of non-objection, while the Nevada Parties and Foreign Third Parties filed objections and other parties sought joinder. The district court

conducted de novo review, approved the Report and Recommendation, overruled the objections, ordered further procedures to determine the citizenship of CSB and HomeLien, partially granted the motion for letters rogatory, and denied the sanctions motion without prejudice.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Macort v. Prem, Inc., 208 F. App'x 781, 783-84 (11th Cir. 2006)
- Heath v. Jones, 863 F.2d 815, 822 (11th Cir. 1989)
- Goney v. Clark, 749 F.2d 5, 7 (3d Cir. 1984)

OPINION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA Case No. 0:20-cv-62002-WPD ONEMATA CORPORATION, Plaintiff, v. ASHFAQ RAHMAN, an individual, et al., Defendants/Third-Party Defendants. _____/ OMNIBUS ORDER THIS CAUSE came before the Court on the January 23, 2026 Report and Recommendation (“R&R”) of Magistrate Judge Alicia O. Valle [DE 951]; Onemata Corporation’s Notice of Non-Objection [DE 952]; the Nevada Parties’ Partial Objections to the January 23, 2026 Report and Recommendation [DE 955]; the Foreign Third Parties’ Objection and Response to Report and Recommendation to District Judge through Special and Limited Appearance [DE 956]; Ashfaq Rahman, Sabira Arefin and Rahman Arefin Living Trust’s Motion for Joinder with DE956 [DE 957]; and Onemata’s Response to Nevada Parties’ Partial Objections to January 23, 2026 Report and Recommendation, Foreign Third Parties Objection and Response to Report and Recommendation, and Ashfaq Rahman, Sabira Arefin and Rahmen Arefin Living Trust’s Motion for Joinder [DE 958].

The Court has carefully considered these filings, the entire docket, and is otherwise fully advised in the premises. A party seeking to challenge the findings in a report and recommendation of a United States Magistrate Judge must file “written objections which shall specifically identify the portions of the proposed findings and recommendation to which objection is made and the specific basis for objection.” Macort v. Prem, Inc., 208 F. App’x 781, 783 (11th Cir.

2006) (quoting Heath v. Jones, 863 F.2d 815, 822 (11th Cir. 1989)). “It is critical that the objection be sufficiently specific and not a general objection to the report.” Macort, 208 F. App’x at 784 (citing Goney v. Clark, 749 F.2d 5, 7 (3d Cir. 1984)). If a party makes a timely and specific objection to a finding in the report and recommendation, the district court must conduct a de novo review of the portions of the report to which objection is made.

Macort, 208 F. App'x at 783-84; see also 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1). The district court may accept, reject, or modify in whole or in part, the findings or recommendations made by the Magistrate Judge. Macort, 208 F. App'x at 784; 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1).

Accordingly, the Court has undertaken a de novo review of the record and the Objections to the Magistrate Judge's R&R [DE's 955, 956, 957]. Having carefully considered the arguments raised in the Objections, the Court overrules the Objections.

The Court agrees with Judge Valle's analysis and conclusions as set forth in the thorough R&R [DE 951]. Accordingly, it is ORDERED AND ADJUDGED as follows: 1. The Report and Recommendation [DE 951] is hereby APPROVED; 2.

The Objections to the Magistrate Judge's R&R [DE's 955, 956, 957] are OVERRULED; 3. The record establishes complete diversity between Onemata, as Plaintiff, and the Nevada Entities. Uncertainty remains, however, regarding the citizenship of CSB and HomeLien, which requires the parties to undertake additional procedures to determine whether complete diversity exists as to the Foreign LLCs; 4.

CSB and HomeLien's Motion for Issuance of Letters Rogatory [DE 941] is GRANTED IN PART. The parties should meet and confer to file a Joint Application for Letters Rogatory directed to the Cook Islands courts. 5. Onemata's Motion for Sanctions [DE 946] is DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE. DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida, on this 23rd day of February, 2026. "4 if { FO etre zd VILLIAM P. DIMITROULEAS United States District Judge Copies to: Counsel of record