

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF  
MISSOURI, EASTERN DIVISION

Kimberly Edwards v. Frank J. Bisignano, Commissioner of Social  
Security Administration

Edwards · No. 4:25-CV-01835-SRW · Decided April 6, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri dismissed Kimberly Edwards’s action seeking judicial review of a Social Security decision without prejudice. The court dismissed the case under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b) for failure to prosecute and failure to comply with the court’s case management and show-cause orders, and certified that an appeal would not be taken in good faith.

CASE DETAILS

|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COURT              | United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, Eastern Division                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| JURISDICTION       | United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, Eastern Division                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| DECIDED            | April 6, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| DOCKET             | 4:25-CV-01835-SRW                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| DISPOSITION        | dismissed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| PROCEDURAL POSTURE | Plaintiff brought an action under 42 U.S.C. § 405(g) seeking judicial review of the Commissioner's decision. After the administrative record was filed, Plaintiff failed to file the required supporting brief, failed to request additional time, and failed to respond to an order to show cause why the action should not be dismissed. |
| PRECEDENTIAL VALUE | unpublished district court memorandum and order                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| PARTIES            | Kimberly Edwards v. Frank J. Bisignano, Commissioner of Social Security Administration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

TOPICS

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

PRACTICE AREAS

## QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the action should be dismissed without prejudice under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b) because Plaintiff failed to comply with court orders and failed to prosecute the case.

## HOLDINGS

1. A district court may dismiss an action without prejudice under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b) when the plaintiff fails to comply with court orders and fails to prosecute after receiving meaningful notice of the required action, a warning of possible dismissal, and additional time to comply. Because Plaintiff failed to file the required brief and failed to respond to the show-cause order, dismissal was warranted.

## KEY QUOTATIONS

*“The Court gave Plaintiff meaningful notice of what was expected, cautioned her that this case could be dismissed if she failed to comply timely, and gave her additional time to comply.”* (unpaginated)

*“Therefore, this action will be dismissed without prejudice due to Plaintiff’s failure to comply with the Court’s March 23, 2026 Show Cause Order, the December 17, 2025 Case Management Order, and her failure to prosecute her case.”* (unpaginated)

## FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiff sought judicial review of a decision of the Commissioner of Social Security. After Defendant filed the certified administrative record and provided Plaintiff a courtesy copy, Plaintiff did not file the supporting brief required by the case management order or request additional time. Plaintiff also failed to respond to the Court's subsequent show-cause order despite being given notice, a deadline, and a warning that the action could be dismissed.

## PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff filed the complaint on December 15, 2025. The Court entered a case management order requiring Plaintiff to file a supporting brief within thirty days after service of the certified administrative transcript. Defendant filed the certified administrative record on February 9, 2026, making Plaintiff's brief due March 11, 2026. After Plaintiff failed to file the brief or seek an extension, the Court issued a show-cause order and warned that noncompliance could result in dismissal. Plaintiff did not respond, and the Court dismissed the action without prejudice.

## DISPOSITION

dismissed

## CASES CITED

- **Brown v. Frey**, 806 F.2d 801, 803-04 (8th Cir. 1986)

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