

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF  
TEXAS, TEXARKANA DIVISION

Premium W. Clark v. Jerry D. Rochelle, et al.

Clark v. Rochelle · No. 5:25-CV-86-RWS-JBB · Decided March 30, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas adopted a magistrate judge’s Report and Recommendation in an inmate’s civil rights and habeas-related action. The court dismissed the petition with prejudice for failure to state a claim, while clarifying that the dismissal did not affect the plaintiff’s ability to challenge his conviction or confinement through other lawful means.

CASE DETAILS

|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COURT                 | United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, Texarkana Division                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| WRITING FOR THE COURT | Robert W. Schroeder III                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| JURISDICTION          | United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, Texarkana Division                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| DECIDED               | March 30, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| DOCKET                | 5:25-CV-86-RWS-JBB                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| DISPOSITION           | dismissed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| PROCEDURAL POSTURE    | The district court reviewed a magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation recommending dismissal of Plaintiff's habeas application as moot. Plaintiff filed no objections, and the district court adopted the Report and Recommendation and dismissed the petition with prejudice for failure to state a claim. |
| STANDARD OF REVIEW    | Because no objections were filed, the district court reviewed the Report and Recommendation for clear error, abuse of discretion, and whether it was contrary to law; unobjected-to factual findings and legal conclusions were subject to appellate review only for plain error.                                |
| PRECEDENTIAL VALUE    | Unknown; district court order with no reporter citation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| PARTIES               | Premium W. Clark v. Jerry D. Rochelle, et al.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

TOPICS

federal habeas corpus

prisoners rights

section 1983

post-conviction relief

civil procedure

## PRACTICE AREAS

civil procedure

federal habeas corpus

prisoner civil rights

post-conviction relief

## QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the district court should adopt the magistrate judge's Report and Recommendation when no objections were filed.
2. Whether the petition should be dismissed with prejudice for failure to state a claim upon which relief may be granted.

## HOLDINGS

1. When a party fails to object to a magistrate judge's proposed findings, conclusions, and recommendations, the district judge need not conduct de novo review, and appellate review of accepted unobjected-to factual findings and legal conclusions is generally limited to plain error.
2. The petition for a writ of habeas corpus was dismissed with prejudice for failure to state a claim upon which relief may be granted.

## KEY QUOTATIONS

*“where no objections to a Magistrate Judge’s Report are filed, the standard of review is “clearly erroneous, abuse of discretion and contrary to law””* (at 2)

## FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Premium W. Clark, an incarcerated pro se plaintiff, filed an action alleging constitutional violations and seeking habeas-related relief concerning his conviction or confinement. The magistrate judge recommended dismissal, and Clark did not object after receiving the Report and Recommendation.

## PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff, an inmate proceeding pro se, filed a civil-rights action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. The case was referred to Magistrate Judge J. Boone Baxter, who issued a Report and Recommendation on December 23, 2025. Plaintiff received the Report on February 17, 2026, but filed no objections. The district court adopted the Report and Recommendation and dismissed the petition with prejudice.

## DISPOSITION

dismissed

## CASES CITED

- Duarte v. City of Lewisville, Texas, 858 F.3d 348, 352 (5th Cir. 2017)
- Arriaga v. Laxminarayan, Case No. 4:21-CV-00203-RAS, 2021 WL 3287683, at \*1 (E.D. Tex. July 31, 2021)

- **United States v. Wilson**, 864 F.2d 1219, 1221 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 492 U.S. 918 (1989)

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