

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF
PENNSYLVANIA

In re Ronald J. Yonkoski

Yonkoski · No. 1:25-CV-01435 · Decided December 3, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania granted Ronald J. Yonkoski leave to proceed in forma pauperis and directed installment payments of the filing fee under 28 U.S.C. § 1915. The court filed and dismissed the complaint without prejudice under § 1915(e)(2)(B)(ii), permitting an amended complaint by January 2, 2026.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Jennifer P. Wilson
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania
DECIDED	December 3, 2025
DOCKET	1:25-CV-01435
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	A prisoner civil-rights plaintiff sought leave to proceed in forma pauperis. The district court granted in forma pauperis status, filed the complaint, dismissed it without prejudice under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(ii), and granted leave to amend.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Statutory screening under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(ii); the order does not state a more specific standard of review.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential district-court order

TOPICS

- prisoners rights
- civil rights
- pleadings
- motion to amend
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- prisoner civil rights
- in forma pauperis proceedings

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the plaintiff should be permitted to proceed in forma pauperis and required to pay the filing fee through the statutory prisoner installment process.
2. Whether the complaint should be dismissed without prejudice pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(ii).
3. Whether the plaintiff should be granted leave to file an amended complaint.

HOLDINGS

1. The plaintiff was granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis but remained responsible for paying the full \$350 filing fee through the statutory initial-partial-fee and monthly-payment process.
2. The complaint was dismissed without prejudice pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(ii).
3. The plaintiff was permitted to file an amended complaint by January 2, 2026; if no amended complaint was filed, the court would close the case.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The complaint, Doc. 1, is **DISMISSED** without prejudice pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(ii).” (Order ¶ 7)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The plaintiff is an incarcerated person who submitted a prisoner civil-rights complaint and an application to proceed in forma pauperis. Based on the financial information in the application, the court granted in forma pauperis status but required payment of the full filing fee through deductions from the plaintiff's prison account. The court dismissed the complaint without prejudice and allowed the plaintiff to amend.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Ronald J. Yonkoski filed a prisoner civil-rights complaint and an application to proceed in forma pauperis. The district court granted the application subject to payment of the full filing fee through the statutory installment process, dismissed the complaint without prejudice, and permitted an amended complaint to be filed by January 2, 2026.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- Weber v. McGrogan, 939 F.3d 232, 241 (3d Cir. 2019)

OPINION

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA: Civil No. 1:25-CV-01435 IN RE RONALD J. YONKOSKI,: Plaintiff.: Judge Jennifer P. Wilson ORDER AND NOW, on this 3rd day of December 2025, for the reasons set

forth in the accompanying memorandum, IT IS ORDERED THAT: 1. Plaintiff 's motion for leave to proceed in forma pauperis, Doc.

4, is GRANTED. 2. Plaintiff shall pay the full filing fee of \$350.00, based on the financial information provided in the application to proceed in forma pauperis. The full filing fee shall be paid regardless of the outcome of the litigation. 3. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1) and (2), the Superintendent/Warden, or other appropriate official at Plaintiff's place of confinement is directed to deduct an initial partial filing fee of 20% of the greater of: (A) the average monthly deposits in the inmate's prison account for the past six months, or (B) the average monthly balance in the inmate's prison account for the past six months.

4. The initial partial filing fee shall be forwarded to the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, P.O. Box 1148, Scranton, Pennsylvania, 18501-1148, to be credited to the above-captioned docket number.

In each succeeding month, when the amount in the Plaintiff's inmate prison account exceeds \$10.00, the Superintendent / Warden, or other proper official, shall forward payments to the Clerk of Court equaling 20% of the preceding month's income credited to Plaintiff's prison account until the \$350.00 fee is paid. Each payment shall reference the above-captioned docket number.

5. The Clerk of Court shall send a copy of this Order to the Superintendent/Warden of the institution wherein Plaintiff is presently confined. 6. The complaint, Doc. 1, is FILED. 7. The complaint, Doc. 1, is DISMISSED without prejudice pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(ii). 8. Plaintiff may file an amended complaint by January 2, 2026.¹ The amended complaint shall be titled "Amended Complaint" and filed under the above captioned case number.

If no amended complaint is filed, the court will close the case. 9. The Clerk of the Court is directed to forward to Plaintiff two (2) copies of the court's prisoner civil rights complaint form for his use in preparing the amended complaint. s/Jennifer P. Wilson JENNIFER P. WILSON United States District Judge Middle District of Pennsylvania 1 If Plaintiff does not wish to amend the complaint, he may file a notice stating that he intends to stand on the complaint.

If Plaintiff files such notice, the court will enter a final order dismissing the complaint so that an appeal may be filed. See *Weber v. McGrogan*, 939 F.3d 232, 241 (3d Cir. 2019).