

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

Jia Chen v. Alejandro Mayorkas et al.

Chen · No. 2:24-cv-06069 MRA-KS · Decided December 4, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Central District of California ordered pro se Plaintiff Jia Chen to show cause why the complaint should not be dismissed as moot. The action sought adjudication of Chen’s asylum application, and Defendants reported that USCIS had adjudicated the application before filing a status update. The court required a written response by December 17, 2025, warning that failure to respond could result in dismissal for lack of prosecution.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Central District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Monica Ramirez Almadant
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Central District of California
DECIDED	December 4, 2025
DOCKET	2:24-cv-06069 MRA-KS
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The district court issued an order to show cause why Plaintiff’s complaint should not be dismissed as moot after Defendants reported that USCIS had adjudicated Plaintiff’s asylum application.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential

TOPICS

- asylum
- immigration
- civil procedure
- administrative law

PRACTICE AREAS

- immigration
- administrative law
- civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether Plaintiff’s complaint should be dismissed as moot because USCIS adjudicated the asylum application whose adjudication the complaint sought to compel.

2. Whether the action may be dismissed for lack of prosecution if Plaintiff fails to respond to the order to show cause.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Jia Chen filed an action against Alejandro Mayorkas, Merrick Garland, and David Radel seeking, among other relief, adjudication of her asylum application. The court stayed the action pending USCIS adjudication, and Defendants reported that USCIS issued a notice reflecting adjudication of the application on June 18, 2025, which Defendants sent to Plaintiff in September and October 2025.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff filed suit seeking, among other relief, an order requiring Defendants to adjudicate her asylum application. The parties jointly stipulated to a stay while USCIS adjudicated the application, and Defendants later reported that USCIS had issued an adjudication notice; the court ordered Plaintiff to explain why the action should not be dismissed as moot and warned that failure to respond could result in dismissal for lack of prosecution.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Link v. Wabash R. Co., 370 U.S. 626, 630 (1962)

OPINION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL MINUTES — GENERAL Case No. = 2:24-cv-06069 MRA-KS Date December 4, 2025 Title Jia Chen v. Alejandro Mayorkas et al. Present: The Honorable MONICA RAMIREZ ALMADANT, UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE Melissa H. Kunig None Present Deputy Clerk Court Reporter Attorneys Present for Plaintiffs: Attorneys Present for Defendants: None Present None Present Proceedings: (IN CHAMBERS) ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WHY COMPLAINT SHOULD NOT BE DISMISSED AS MOOT Plaintiff Jia Chen (‘Plaintiff’), proceeding pro se, filed this action on July 19, 2024, against Defendants Alejandro Mayorkas, Merrick Garland, and David Radel (collectively, “Defendants”).

ECF 1. Plaintiff's Complaint sought, inter alia, an order requiring Defendants to adjudicate Plaintiff's asylum application. *Jd.* at 5. On September 3, 2024, the Court entered the parties’ joint stipulation to stay this action until October 20, 2025, or until the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) rendered a decision on Plaintiff's asylum application, whichever occurred earlier.

ECF 7. The Court directed the parties to file a status report regarding Plaintiff's application on or before October 13, 2025, or when USCIS renders a decision. Id. On November 20, 2025, Defendants filed a status update with the Court, indicating that USCIS issued a notice to Plaintiff reflecting its adjudication of Plaintiff's application on June 18, 2025.

ECF 10; ECF 10-1 6. Defendants sent this notice to Plaintiff on September 22, 2025, and again on October 10, 2025. ECF 10-1 99 7,9. According to Defendants, Plaintiff had not responded by the time of filing the status report. Plaintiff is hereby ORDERED TO SHOW CAUSE in writing, no later than December 17, 2025, why Plaintiff's complaint should not be dismissed as moot.

Plaintiff's response shall not exceed five (5) pages. Failure to timely respond may result in dismissal of this lawsuit for lack of prosecution. See Fed. R. Civ. Pro. 41(b); L-R. 41-1; Link v. Wabash R. Co., 370 U.S. 626, 630 (1962) (recognizing "inherent power" of district court to dismiss sua sponte for lack of prosecution). UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL MINUTES — GENERAL Case No. = 2:24-cv-06069 MRA-KS Date December 4, 2025 Title Jia Chen v. Alejandro Mayorkas et al. IT ISSO ORDERED.

Initials of Deputy Clerk mku