

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
WEST VIRGINIA

Marvin Calvin v. FCI Beckley Warden

Calvin · No. 5:25-cv-456 · Decided January 20, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia adopted a magistrate judge’s proposed findings and recommendation and dismissed Marvin Calvin’s 28 U.S.C. § 2241 habeas petition without prejudice. The dismissal was based on failure to prosecute under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b), and no objections to the recommendation were filed.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Frank W. Volk
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia
DECIDED	January 20, 2026
DOCKET	5:25-cv-456
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Petitioner sought habeas relief under 28 U.S.C. § 2241. After a magistrate judge recommended dismissal for failure to prosecute under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b), no objections were filed, and the district court adopted the recommendation and dismissed the action without prejudice.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	No de novo review is required for portions of a magistrate judge's proposed findings and recommendation to which no timely objection is made. General and conclusory objections that do not identify a specific error also do not require de novo review.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished federal district court order; precedential status is unknown.
PARTIES	Marvin Calvin v. FCI Beckley Warden

TOPICS

- federal habeas corpus
- post-conviction relief
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

Federal habeas corpus

Civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the district court was required to conduct de novo review of the magistrate judge's proposed findings and recommendation when no objections were filed.
2. Whether the action should be dismissed without prejudice for failure to prosecute under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b).

HOLDINGS

1. The district court was not required to conduct de novo or other review of the factual or legal conclusions in the PF&R because Petitioner filed no objections.
2. The action was properly dismissed without prejudice for failure to prosecute pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b).

KEY QUOTATIONS

"Parties may not typically "appeal a magistrate judge's findings that were not objected to below, as § 636(b) doesn't require de novo review absent objection.""

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Marvin Calvin filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2241. A magistrate judge recommended dismissal because Calvin failed to prosecute the action, and Calvin filed no objections by the deadline.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Calvin filed a § 2241 petition on July 21, 2025. The matter was referred to Magistrate Judge Dwane L. Tinsley, who issued a proposed findings and recommendation on October 9, 2025, recommending dismissal for failure to prosecute. Calvin did not object by the October 27, 2025 deadline, so the district court adopted the PF&R and dismissed the case without prejudice.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- Thomas v. Arn, 474 U.S. 140 (1985)
- United States v. De Leon-Ramirez, 925 F.3d 177, 181 (4th Cir. 2019)
- Snyder v. Ridenour, 889 F.2d 1363, 1366 (4th Cir. 1989)
- Orpiano v. Johnson, 687 F.2d 44, 47 (4th Cir. 1982)

