

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
FAYETTEVILLE DIVISION

REBECCA LEWALLEN

PLAINTIFF

v.

CIVIL NO. 22-5090

KILOLO KIJAKAZI, Acting Commissioner
Social Security Administration

DEFENDANT

MEMORANDUM OPINION

Plaintiff, Rebecca Lewallen, brings this action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 405(g) seeking judicial review of a decision of the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration (Commissioner) denying her application for a period of disability and disability insurance benefits (DIB) under the provisions of Title II of the Social Security Act (Act). (ECF No. 2). The Defendant filed an Answer to Plaintiff's action on July 22, 2022, asserting that the findings of the Commissioner were supported by substantial evidence and were conclusive. (ECF No. 10).

On September 9, 2022, the Commissioner, having changed positions, filed an unopposed motion requesting that Plaintiff's case be remanded pursuant to "sentence four" of section 405(g) in order to conduct further administrative proceedings. (ECF No. 14).

The exclusive methods by which a district court may remand a social security case to the Commissioner are set forth in "sentence four" and "sentence six" of 42 U.S.C. § 405(g). A remand pursuant to "sentence six" is limited to two situations: where the Commissioner requests a remand before answering the complaint, or where the court orders the Commissioner to consider new, material evidence that was for good cause not presented before the agency. The fourth sentence of the statute provides that "[t]he court shall have power to enter, upon the pleadings and transcript of the record, a judgment affirming, modifying, or reversing the decision of the Commissioner of

Social Security, with or without remanding the cause for a rehearing." 42 U.S.C. § 405(g); *Shalala v. Schaefer*, 509 U.S. 292, 296 (1993). Here, the Court finds appropriate remand for the purpose of the ALJ to further evaluate the evidence.

Based on the foregoing, the Court finds remand appropriate and **GRANTS** the Commissioner's unopposed motion to remand this case to the Commissioner for further administrative action pursuant to "sentence four" of section 405(g).

DATED this 13th day of September 2022.

/s/ *Christy Comstock*

HON. CHRISTY COMSTOCK
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE