

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI  
SOUTHERN DIVISION**

**CHARLES DENNIS MATHIS**

**PLAINTIFF**

**v.**

**CIVIL NO. 1:15cv256-HSO-JCG**

**MARSHALL FISHER, AND  
JACQUELYN BANKS**

**DEFENDANTS**

**ORDER ADOPTING MAGISTRATE JUDGE'S REPORT  
AND RECOMMENDATION [22] AND DISMISSING  
PLAINTIFF'S CLAIMS WITHOUT PREJUDICE**

This matter comes before the Court on the Report and Recommendation [22] of United States Magistrate Judge John C. Gargiulo, entered on December 16, 2016. The Magistrate Judge recommended that pro se Plaintiff Charles Dennis Mathis' Complaint [1] be dismissed for his failure to obey Orders [3] [4] [8] of the Court, failure to respond to Show Cause Order [20] and explain why he failed to appear at the Omnibus Hearing, and generally Plaintiff's failure to prosecute. R. & R. [22] at 1-3. After due consideration of the Report and Recommendation [22], the record, and relevant legal authority, the Court finds that the Report and Recommendation should be adopted as the finding of this Court, and that Plaintiff's claims in this action should be dismissed without prejudice.

On August 6, 2015, Plaintiff Charles Dennis Mathis ("Plaintiff") filed a Complaint [1] against Defendants Commissioner Marshall Fisher and Superintendent Jacquelyn Banks pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. On August 24,

2015, Plaintiff filed his Authorization for Release of Institutional Account Information [7]. Plaintiff has not filed anything in this case since August 24, 2015.

Plaintiff has not updated his mailing address with the Court, even though Plaintiff has been warned in Orders [3] [4] [8] issued by the Magistrate Judge that failure to advise the Court of a change of address would be deemed as a purposeful delay and contumacious act which could result in dismissal of this case. *See* Order [3] at 2; Order [4] at 2; Order [8] at 2. Nor has Plaintiff responded to the Magistrate Judge's Show Cause Order [20] or otherwise explained why he failed to update his address or appear at the Omnibus Hearing. *See* Show Cause Order [20] at 1.

On December 16, 2016, the Magistrate Judge entered a Report and Recommendation [22], recommending that Plaintiff's Complaint be dismissed for Plaintiff's failure to obey Orders of the Court and failure to prosecute. R. & R. [22] at 1-3. A copy of the Report and Recommendation was mailed to Plaintiff at his address of record via certified mail on December 16, 2016, and that mail [23] was returned to the Clerk stamped "RETURN TO SENDER[,] REFUSED[,] UNABLE TO FORWARD" on December 23, 2016. Plaintiff has not objected to the Report and Recommendation, and the time for doing so has passed.

Where no party has objected to a magistrate judge's proposed findings of fact and recommendation, the Court need not conduct a de novo review of it. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) ("A judge of the court shall make a de novo determination of those portions of the report or specified proposed findings or recommendations to which objection

is made.”). In such cases, the Court applies the “clearly erroneous, abuse of discretion and contrary to law” standard of review. *United States v. Wilson*, 864 F.2d 1219, 1221 (5th Cir. 1989).

Having conducted the required review, the Court concludes that the Magistrate Judge’s findings are not clearly erroneous, nor are they an abuse of discretion or contrary to law. This Court has the authority to dismiss an action for Plaintiff’s failure to prosecute under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b), and under its inherent authority to dismiss the action *sua sponte*. See *Link v. Wabash Railroad*, 370 U.S. 626, 630-31 (1962); *McCullough v Lynaugh*, 835 F.2d 1126, 1127 (5th Cir. 1988). The Court must be able to clear its calendars of cases that remain dormant because of the inaction or dilatoriness of the parties seeking relief, so as to achieve the orderly and expeditious disposition of cases. Such a sanction is necessary in order to prevent undue delays in the disposition of pending cases and to avoid congestion in the calendars of the Court. See *Link*, 370 U.S. at 629-30.

Plaintiff did not comply with the Orders entered by the Magistrate Judge even after being warned that failure to do so might result in the dismissal of his lawsuit. Plaintiff has filed nothing in this case since August 24, 2015. Such inaction represents a clear record of delay or contumacious conduct by Plaintiff. It is apparent to the Court that Plaintiff no longer wishes to pursue his case. Dismissal without prejudice is warranted.

**IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** that, the Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendation [22], entered in this case on December 16, 2016, is adopted as the finding of this Court.

**IT IS, FURTHER, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** that, Plaintiff Charles Dennis Mathis's claims against Defendants are hereby **DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE**. A separate judgment will be entered in accordance with this Order, as required by Rule 58 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

**SO ORDERED AND ADJUDGED**, this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2017.

*s/ Halil Suleyman Ozerden*

HALIL SULEYMAN OZERDEN  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE