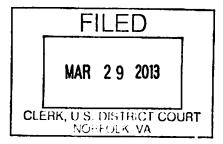
## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA Newport News Division



## VINCENTE FERDINAND,

v.

Plaintiff,

Civil Action No.: 4:12cv80

# MICHAEL J. ASTRUE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY,

## Defendant.

#### **OPINION AND ORDER**

Plaintiff Vincente Ferdinand ("Plaintiff" or "Ferdinand") brought this action under 42 U.S.C. § 405(g) and 42 U.S.C. § 1383(c)(3) seeking judicial review of the final decision of the Commissioner of Social Security ("Commissioner") denying his claim for Supplemental Security Income under the Social Security Act. Pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. §§ 636(b)(1)(B) and (C), Rule 72(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 72 of the Rules of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, and by order dated August 16, 2012, this matter was referred to a United States Magistrate Judge for a Report and Recommendation. Doc. 7.

The Report and Recommendation of the Magistrate Judge ("R&R"), filed on February 28, 2013, finds that a recent decision by the Fourth Circuit mandates remand to permit the Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") to re-evaluate both Ferdinand's Veteran Affairs ("VA") disability rating and the post-hearing evidence submitted to the Appeals Council. Doc. 18. Accordingly, the Magistrate Judge recommends the following: 1) that the final decision of the Commissioner be vacated and remanded for further proceedings consistent with the R&R; 2) that Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment be denied; 3) that Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment be denied; and 4) that Plaintiff's Motion for Remand be granted. <u>Id.</u> at 20.

By copy of the R&R, each party was advised of the right to file written objections to the findings and recommendations made by the Magistrate Judge within fourteen (14) days from the date the R&R was mailed, pursuant to Rule 6(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The parties were also given an additional three (3) days, pursuant to Rule 6(d) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The time for filing written objections has now passed, and neither party has filed objections. As indicated in the R&R, "failure to file timely objections to the findings and recommendations set forth [in the R&R] will result in a waiver of the right to appeal from a judgment of this Court based on such findings and recommendations." <u>Id.</u> at 21.

This Court has reviewed the R&R of the Magistrate Judge and hereby adopts and approves in full the findings and recommendations set forth therein. Accordingly, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the final decision of the Commissioner be **VACATED** and **REMANDED** for further proceedings consistent with the R&R, that Plaintiff's Motion for Remand be **GRANTED**, that Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment be **DENIED**, and that Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment be **DENIED**.

Plaintiff is advised that he may appeal from this Opinion and Final Order by forwarding a written notice of appeal to the Clerk of the United States District Court, United States Courthouse, 600 Granby Street, Norfolk, Virginia 23510. Said written notice must be received by the Clerk within sixty (60) days from the date of this Order. If Plaintiff wishes to proceed <u>in forma pauperis</u> on appeal, the application to proceed <u>in forma pauperis</u> is to be submitted to the Clerk, United States Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit, 1100 E. Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

2

The Clerk is **REQUESTED** to send a copy of this Opinion and Order to all counsel of

record.

It is so **ORDERED**.

Is/ Henry Coke Morgan, Jr. Senior United States District Judge HENRY COKE MORGAN, JR. SENIOR UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Norfolk, Virginia March  $29^{-1}$ , 2013