

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

DUBLIN DIVISION

GLADYS HARUN,	)	
	)	
Petitioner,	)	
	)	
v.	)	CR 323-003
	)	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

ORDER

The Court **GRANTS IN PART** Petitioner’s request for an extension of time to file objections to the Court’s April 30, 2026 Report and Recommendation. (Doc. no. 79.) Petitioner, who is no longer incarcerated, requests nearly five times the standard fourteen-day period of time to object so that she can “seek and obtain appointment of counsel” to help her with her collateral attack. (*Id.* at 1.) There was no separate motion for appointment of counsel filed along with the request for an extension of time to object.

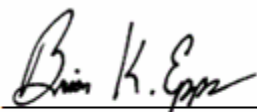
In any event, there is no automatic constitutional right to counsel in habeas proceedings. See Pennsylvania v. Finley, 481 U.S. 551, 555 (1987); United States v. Webb, 565 F.3d 789, 794 (11th Cir. 2009) (citing Barbour v. Haley, 471 F.3d 1222, 1227 (11th Cir. 2006)); Hooks v. Wainwright, 775 F.2d 1433, 1438 (11th Cir. 1985). Under 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(a)(2)(B), the Court may appoint counsel for an indigent litigant seeking relief under 28 U.S.C. § 2255, but such requests are discretionary when “due process or the ‘interests of justice’” so require.

Hooks, 775 F.2d at 1438; Norris v. Wainwright, 588 F.2d 130, 133 (5th Cir. 1979).¹ Moreover, appointment of counsel is “a privilege that is justified only by exceptional circumstances[.]” McCall v. Cook, 495 F. App’x 29, 31 (11th Cir. 2012) (*per curiam*).

Even if Petitioner had filed a motion, the Court does not find any exceptional circumstances justifying the appointment of counsel. See id. Despite previously filing voluminous *pro se* motions full of citations to case law and financial records, Petitioner now claims she is unable to understand and address the analysis in the Report and Recommendation of the very issues she raised. The record is clear Petitioner has had no problem communicating with the Court and presenting her arguments for relief. Thus, even if Petitioner had submitted a motion requesting appointed counsel, she is not entitled to such an appointment.

Nevertheless, in an abundance of caution, the Court grants an extension of time through and including June 22, 2026, to file objections to the Court’s April 30, 2026 Report and Recommendation. (Doc. no. 79.)

SO ORDERED this 12th day of May, 2026, at Augusta, Georgia.



BRIAN K. EPPS
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

¹In Bonner v. City of Prichard, 661 F.2d 1206, 1209 (11th Cir. 1981) (*en banc*), the Eleventh Circuit adopted as binding precedent all Fifth Circuit decisions that were handed down prior the close of business on September 30, 1981.