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Buckley v. Comm Social Security

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IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT

NO. 01-2439

JAMES BUCKLEY, Appellant

v.

*LARRY G. MASSANARI, ACTING COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY *(Pursuant to F.R.A.P. 43(c))

On Appeal From the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania (D.C. Civil No. 00-cv-03589) District Judge: Honorable Charles R. Weiner

Submitted Under Third Circuit LAR 34.1(a) January 17, 2002

Before: RENDELL, FUENTES and MAGILL*, Circuit Judges.

(Filed March 14, 2002)

OPINION

*Honorable Frank J. Magill, United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, sitting by designation.

RENDELL, Circuit Judge.

James Buckley seeks review of the District Court's determination that the

Administrative Law Judge's ("ALJ") ruling was supported by "substantial evidence"

when he found that Mr. Buckley was not disabled in accordance with the Social Security

Act. Buckley was formerly a bartender and warehouseman. He last worked full-time in

1992, and alleges that he became disabled in 1994 due to pain in his groin and lower back.

Our role as a reviewing court is limited to determining whether the Commissioner's decision is supported by "substantial evidence" which is "such relevant

evidence as a reasonable mind might accept as adequate to support a ${\it conclusion."}$

Richardson v. Perales, 402 U.S. 389, 401 (1971). We are bound by the ALJ's findings of

fact if they are supported by substantial evidence in the record. Plummer v. Apfel, 186

F.3d 422, 427 (3d Cir. 1999).

The ALJ found Buckley's subjective complaints not fully credible. One of his

doctors, Dr. Albornoz, had noted that his complaints were "out of proportion" to what he

encountered in his examination and imaging studies. The ALJ found that Buckley's daily

activities, although somewhat limited, were consistent with the ability to perform

sedentary work. Another doctor, Dr. Dworkin, stated that Buckley's pain was controlled

so that he could function in a "fairly normal manner." The ALJ relied on the grids to

direct a finding of non-disability.

The District Court affirmed the ALJ's ruling noting that the objective medical

evidence did not support Buckley's allegations of total disability. The District Court

addressed each of Buckley's contentions. These were: (1) the ALJ erred in finding that

his testimony was not fully credible; (2) that the ALJ erred by failing to take into account

the impact of the side effects of his medication; and finally (3) that the ALJ erred in

relying on Rule 201.27 to find that he was not disabled.

The District Court considered all of these contentions and analyzed them

thoroughly, rejecting them in a ten-page memorandum opinion and order. Buckley raises

these same issues on appeal. After a thorough review of the record, and giving due

consideration to the briefs filed in this appeal, we find that the District Court's opinion

sets forth the proper reasoning with respect to each of these issues. Accordingly, we will

not restate the analysis here but, instead, incorporate by reference the memorandum

opinion and order of the District Court in this matter.

Accordingly, we will AFFIRM the District Court's order.

TO THE CLERK OF COURT:

Please file the foregoing Not Precedential Opinion.

/s/ Marjorie O. Rendell Circuit Judge