

STATE OF LOUISIANA

NO. 25-K-53

VERSUS

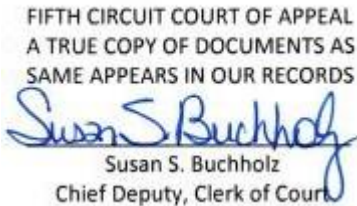
FIFTH CIRCUIT

JAMAL C. HARRIS

COURT OF APPEAL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

October 24, 2025



Susan Buchholz
Chief Deputy Clerk

IN RE JAMAL C. HARRIS

APPLYING FOR SUPERVISORY WRIT FROM THE TWENTY-FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT,
PARISH OF JEFFERSON, STATE OF LOUISIANA, DIRECTED TO THE HONORABLE
DONALD A. ROWAN, JR., DIVISION "L", NUMBER 20-5861

Panel composed of Judges Marc E. Johnson,
Stephen J. Windhorst, and John J. Molaison, Jr.

WRIT DENIED

Relator/defendant, Jamal Harris, filed a *pro se* petition for writ of mandamus, asserting that on December 23, 2024, he filed a motion for speedy trial, and the trial court has not set his motion for hearing. He also contends he filed a motion to quash the indictment that has not been addressed.

Mandamus is an extraordinary remedy that is used to compel the performance of ministerial duties imposed by law when ordinary means fail to provide adequate relief or when delays in obtaining ordinary relief may cause in injustice. La. C.C.P. arts. 3861-3863; Lewis v. St. John the Baptist Parish Through Cadour, 22-43 (La. App. 5 Cir. 10/19/22), 351 So.3d 734, 738-739. In cases where a writ of mandamus is filed to compel a trial court to rule on a motion, this court has recognized the importance of ensuring that the trial court fulfills its duty to address pending motions. See *e.g.*, Davis v. Lopinto, 25-130 (La. App. 5 Cir. 04/08/25), 2025 WL 1042703 (unpublished writ disposition); Durall v. Darensburg, 24-141 (La. App. 5 Cir. 09/10/24), 2024 WL 4131867 (unpublished writ disposition). Therefore, in the

interest of justice, and in an effort to use reasonable diligence in determining whether the trial court has fulfilled its duty to rule on the alleged pending motions indicated in relator's writ of mandamus, this court has reviewed the trial record, as this is the most reasonable, efficient, and logical way for us to determine if relator is entitled to mandamus relief.

Defendant has failed to provide copies of the *pro se* motions that were allegedly filed and not ruled on by the trial court. Nevertheless, in the interest of justice, the record shows that another *pro se* motion for speedy trial was filed by relator on January 2, 2025, not December 23, 2024. The record indicates that this *pro se* motion was set for February 3, 2025. The February 3, 2025 minute entry indicates that counsel for defendant was present, waived defendant's presence, and requested a continuance, and the trial court reset the hearing for May 1, 2025. The minute entry further indicates that counsel for defendant stated he "will not adopt Defendant's speedy trial motion." The record indicates that defendant's motion was continued and reset several times and is currently set for November 10, 2025. Therefore, because defendant's motion was continued and reset, defendant is not entitled to mandamus relief at this time.

Additionally, as to defendant's *pro se* motion to quash, the record shows defendant has filed numerous *pro se* motions to quash over the course of this proceeding and this court is unable to determine which motion to quash the defendant contends was not ruled on or set for hearing in the current writ application. Therefore, on the showing made, relator is not entitled to mandamus relief.

Accordingly, on the showing made, this writ application is denied.

Gretna, Louisiana, this 24th day of October, 2025.

SJW
MEJ

STATE OF LOUISIANA

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STATE OF LOUISIANA

MOLAISON, J., CONCURS WITHOUT REASONS

JJM

SUSAN M. CHEHARDY
CHIEF JUDGE

FREDERICKA H. WICKER
JUDE G. GRAVOIS
MARC E. JOHNSON
STEPHEN J. WINDHORST
JOHN J. MOLAISSON, JR.
SCOTT U. SCHLEGEL
TIMOTHY S. MARCEL

JUDGES



FIFTH CIRCUIT
101 DERBIGNY STREET (70053)
POST OFFICE BOX 489
GRETN, LOUISIANA 70054
www.fifthcircuit.org

CURTIS B. PURSELL
CLERK OF COURT

SUSAN S. BUCHHOLZ
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

LINDA M. TRAN
FIRST DEPUTY CLERK

MELISSA C. LEDET
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL STAFF

(504) 376-1400
(504) 376-1498 FAX

NOTICE OF DISPOSITION CERTIFICATE OF DELIVERY

I CERTIFY THAT A COPY OF THE DISPOSITION IN THE FOREGOING MATTER HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH **UNIFORM RULES - COURT OF APPEAL, RULE 4-6** THIS DAY **10/24/2025** TO THE TRIAL JUDGE, THE TRIAL COURT CLERK OF COURT, AND AT LEAST ONE OF THE COUNSEL OF RECORD FOR EACH PARTY, AND TO EACH PARTY NOT REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL, AS LISTED BELOW:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Curtis B. Pursell".

CURTIS B. PURSELL
CLERK OF COURT

25-K-53

E-NOTIFIED

24th Judicial District Court (Clerk)
Honorable Donald A. Rowan, Jr. (DISTRICT JUDGE)
Thomas J. Butler (Respondent)

MAILED

Jamal C. Harris #49429 (Relator)
Jefferson Parish Correctional Center
P. O. Box 388
Gretna, LA 70054