

Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal State of Louisiana

No. 26-C-245

MR. ROBERT L. DICKERSON, CURATOR FOR BRANDON
DICKERSON

versus

GENEVA DICKERSON, ET AL

IN RE GENEVA DICKERSON
APPLYING FOR SUPERVISORY WRIT FROM THE TWENTY-FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COURT, PARISH OF JEFFERSON, STATE OF LOUISIANA, DIRECTED TO THE HONORABLE E.
ADRIAN ADAMS, DIVISION "G", No. 826-351

TRUE COPY

August 13, 2026



LINDA TRAN
DEPUTY CLERK

Panel composed of Judges Fredericka Homberg Wicker,
John J. Molaison, Jr., and Scott U. Schlegel

WRIT DENIED AS MOOT

Relator Geneva Dickerson seeks supervisory review of the trial court's April 1, 2026 judgment denying her Peremptory Exceptions of *Res Judicata*, or alternatively, No Right of Action, Request to Take Judicial Notice, and Motion for Sanctions, which were filed in response to the Motion for Constructive Contempt of Court filed by Respondent Robert Dickerson. For the reasons that follow, we deny the writ application as moot.

BACKGROUND

This matter arises from interdiction proceedings concerning Brandon Dickerson, involving his sisters, Geneva Dickerson and Jennifer Herring, and his father, Robert Dickerson.¹ On October 25, 2022, the trial court rendered a judgment of full interdiction, appointing Robert as Curator and Geneva as Undercuratrix. Since then, Brandon has resided in a New York care facility.

In 2023, the trial court rendered two monetary judgments in Robert's favor and against Geneva: a March 10, 2023 judgment awarding \$10,999.75 in attorney's fees and costs, and a June 1, 2023 \$250 contempt fine. In the June 1, 2023 judgment, the trial court also removed Geneva as Undercuratrix and appointed Lakeya Dickerson in her place. On June 26, 2023, Robert filed a Satisfaction of Judgments, acknowledging that Geneva had paid both monetary awards to Robert and against her.

More than two years later, on September 24, 2025, Robert sought a permanent injunction barring Geneva from participating in any further matters concerning Brandon. Geneva filed an exception of lack of personal jurisdiction, and both matters were set for hearing on November 18, 2025. Following the hearing, the trial court sustained Geneva's exception, finding that it lacked personal jurisdiction over her, dismissed all claims against her with prejudice, and denied Robert's injunction request as moot, in a written judgment rendered on January 7, 2026.

On November 18, 2025, Robert, appearing *pro se*, also filed a Motion for Constructive Contempt of Court against Geneva, along with motions for *in camera* review and disqualification. On February 13, 2026, Geneva filed a Peremptory Exception of *Res Judicata*, or alternatively, No Right of Action, along with motions for judicial notice and sanctions. The trial court held a hearing on both Robert's and

¹ Because the parties share a surname, we refer to them by their first names to avoid confusion.

Geneva's pending motions on March 2, 2026. Following the hearing, the trial court denied all pending motions, including Robert's contempt motion and Geneva's exceptions, in a written judgment rendered on April 1, 2026.

This writ application followed.

DISCUSSION

Relator's central contention is that the trial court's January 7, 2026 judgment sustaining her exception of lack of personal jurisdiction extinguished Robert's contempt action because the court had already determined it lacked personal jurisdiction over her. She therefore argues that the trial court erred in later exercising jurisdiction over her and denying her exceptions to Robert's contempt motion. Notably, however, the trial court also denied Robert's contempt motion. Accordingly, as a threshold matter, we must determine whether a justiciable controversy remains or whether the trial court's denial of the contempt motion renders this writ application moot.

Louisiana courts will not decide abstract, hypothetical, or moot controversies, nor render advisory opinions with respect to such controversies. *Ulrich v. Robinson*, 18-534 (La. 3/26/19), 282 So.3d 180, 186 (citing *Cat's Meow, Inc. v. City of New Orleans Through Dep't of Fin.*, 98-0601 (La. 10/20/98), 720 So.2d 1186, 1193). An issue is moot when a judgment has been "deprived of practical significance" or has been "made abstract or purely academic." *Id.* In other words, a case is moot when a judgment can serve no useful purpose and give no practical relief or effect. *Id.* If the case is moot, then there is no subject matter on which a judgment of the reviewing court can operate. *Id.*

Here, Relator's exceptions of *res judicata* and, alternatively, no right of action, were directed to Robert's contempt motion. Through those exceptions, she sought dismissal of the contempt proceeding. The trial court's denial of Robert's

contempt motion achieved that result. Because the motion was denied, the proceeding has concluded, leaving no pending contempt action. As a result, a ruling by this Court on the merits would not afford Relator any practical relief. Any opinion on the correctness of the trial court's ruling on the exceptions would therefore be advisory. Accordingly, the trial court's denial of the contempt motion rendered Relator's exceptions moot, and her writ application challenging the denial of those exceptions is likewise moot.

For these reasons, we deny the writ application as moot.

Gretna, Louisiana, this 13th day of August, 2026.

FHW
JJM
SUS

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



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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 **08/13/2026** 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:

CURTIS B. PURSELL
CLERK OF COURT

26-C-245

E-NOTIFIED

24th Judicial District Court (Clerk)
Honorable E. Adrian Adams (DISTRICT JUDGE)
Grant T. Herrin (Relator)

MAILED

Robert L. Dickerson (Respondent)
In Proper Person
29 Seymour Lane
Medford, NY 11763

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Silas J. Thomas, Jr. (Relator)
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