

Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal State of Louisiana

No. 26-KH-302

KEITH JOHNSON

versus

24TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

IN RE KEITH JOHNSON
APPLYING FOR SUPERVISORY WRIT FROM THE TWENTY-FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COURT, PARISH OF JEFFERSON, STATE OF LOUISIANA, DIRECTED TO THE HONORABLE
SHAYNA BEEVERS MORVANT, DIVISION "M", No. 20-794

TRUE COPY

September 01, 2026



LINDA TRAN
DEPUTY CLERK

Panel composed of Judges Stephen J. Windhorst,
Michael P. Mentz, Pro Tempore, and Timothy S. Marcel

WRIT GRANTED FOR LIMITED PURPOSE

In this pro se writ application, relator, Keith Johnson, seeks mandamus relief to order the district court to rule on his “Notice of Intent to Apply for Writs and Request for Return Date” filed on June 16, 2026¹ in the 24th Judicial District Court.

On July 6, 2026, relator filed a writ of mandamus with this Court. In it, relator avers that the district court has not acted on his notice of intent. According to relator, he filed his notice of intent on June 8, 2026, following the district court’s May 26, 2026 ruling denying his application for post-conviction relief. In support of his claim, relator included an unstamped copy of his notice of intent, signed and dated

¹ Relator avers that the notice of intent was filed on June 8, 2026. However, it appears from a review of the filings in this matter that the notice was filed with the district court on June 16, 2026.

June 8, 2026. However, according to a record of filings in this matter, relator's notice of intent was filed with the district court on June 16, 2026. There is no evidence that the 24th Judicial District Court has ruled on relator's notice of intent.

As an initial matter, it appears that less than 30 days had elapsed when relator's writ of mandamus, postmarked July 6, 2026, was filed with this Court. Generally, this Court does not consider writ of mandamus without affording the district court a reasonable opportunity, typically 30 days from the date of filing the motion, to act. *See, e.g., State v. Monterroso*, 21-K-650 (La. App. 5 Cir. 10/29/21). However, relator's mandamus request now appears to be only a few days shy of the 30-day period. *State v. Honor*, 25-KH-124 (La. App. 5 Cir. 4/15/25), presented similar facts (a writ of mandamus ordering a district court to rule on a motion to quash), and this Court granted relator's writ for the limited purpose of ordering the district court to review the record and determine if it had ruled upon the notice of intent to apply for writs. We will do the same here.

We grant relator's writ of mandamus for the limited purpose of ordering the district court to review the record to determine if it has ruled upon the Notice of Intent to Apply for Writs and Request for Return Date filed on or around June 16, 2026 in the 24th Judicial District Court, and if not, to rule upon the Notice of Intent within ten days of this writ disposition. We further order the district court to serve a copy of its ruling on this Court and relator.

Gretna, Louisiana, this 1st day of September, 2026.

MPM
SJW
TSM

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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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
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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 **09/01/2026** 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-KH-302

E-NOTIFIED

24th Judicial District Court (Clerk)
Honorable Shayna Beevers Morvant (DISTRICT JUDGE)
Thomas J. Butler (Respondent)

MAILED

Keith Johnson #743199 (Relator)
Rayburn Correctional Center
27268 Highway 21
Angie, LA 70426