

STATE OF LOUISIANA

NO. 25-K-300

VERSUS

FIFTH CIRCUIT

TORRANCE CLARK

COURT OF APPEAL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

FIFTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEAL  
A TRUE COPY OF DOCUMENTS AS  
SAME APPEARS IN OUR RECORDS

  
Morgan Naquin  
Deputy, Clerk of Court

July 11, 2025

Morgan Naquin  
Deputy Clerk

**IN RE TORRANCE CLARK**

**APPLYING FOR** SUPERVISORY WRIT FROM THE TWENTY-FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT,  
PARISH OF JEFFERSON, STATE OF LOUISIANA, DIRECTED TO THE HONORABLE MICHAEL P.  
MENTZ, DIVISION "F", NUMBER 21-3269

Panel composed of Judges Susan M. Chehardy,  
Stephen J. Windhorst, and E. Adrian Adams, Pro Tempore

## **WRIT DENIED**

Relator, Torrance Clark, has filed an “Objection to Competency Hearing” in this Court. He argues that he was deemed competent on June 24, 2025, and that there is no reason why the (underlying criminal) proceeding should not move forward or be dismissed, or why his bond should not be restored and he can be released pending trial. This Court’s prior dispositions in response to relator’s requests for review indicate that relator remains in continued custody for competency restoration at the Eastern Louisiana Mental Health System, pursuant to the trial court’s May 8, 2024 order finding him incompetent to proceed to trial on charges of sexual battery. *See* 25-K-239, 24-K-364, 24-K-285, 24-K-182.

First, we note that relator has not attached a copy of the trial court’s order regarding such a competency hearing, a violation of the Uniform Rules – Courts of Appeal, Rule 4-5. Nevertheless, the record indicates that on June 25, 2025, defendant appeared before the trial court for a competency hearing. At that time,

the trial court appointed Dr. Sarah DeLand and Dr. Janet Johnson to reevaluate the defendant to determine if he is competent to stand trial, and the court re-set defendant's competency hearing for August 6, 2025. It does not appear that any change to relator's status occurred at the June 25, 2025 hearing.

Second, in light of relator's current status, no further steps may be taken in his criminal prosecution until the issue of his competency has been resolved. *See* La. C.Cr.P. art. 642; *Clark v. Sovanrak J. Lek*, 25-K-239 (La. App. 5 Cir. 6/5/25) (unpublished writ disposition).

Accordingly, due to the trial court's May 2024 determination that relator lacks the mental capacity to proceed, the resulting suspension of proceedings, the lack of any adjudication recognizing a change to relator's status, and the upcoming competency hearing scheduled for August 6, 2025, this Court has nothing to review. The writ is denied.

Gretna, Louisiana, this 11th day of July, 2025.

**EAA**  
**SMC**  
**SJW**

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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GRETNA, LOUISIANA 70054  
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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  
(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 **07/11/2025** 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:

**CURTIS B. PURSELL**  
CLERK OF COURT

**25-K-300**

**E-NOTIFIED**

24th Judicial District Court (Clerk)  
Honorable Michael P. Mentz (DISTRICT JUDGE)  
Thomas J. Butler (Respondent)

**MAILED**

Torrance Clark #40089600 (Relator)  
Jefferson Parish Correctional Center  
P. O. Box 388  
Gretna, LA 70054