

Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal State of Louisiana

No. 26-KH-39

STATE OF LOUISIANA

versus

ROMALIS LEVIER

IN RE ROMALIS LEVIER

APPLYING FOR SUPERVISORY WRIT FROM THE TWENTY-FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, PARISH OF JEFFERSON, STATE OF LOUISIANA, DIRECTED TO THE HONORABLE DANYELLE M. TAYLOR, DIVISION "O", No. 16-355

TRUE COPY

February 05, 2026



LINDA TRAN
DEPUTY CLERK

Panel composed of Judges Susan M. Chehardy,
John J. Molaison, Jr., and Timothy S. Marcel

WRIT DENIED

Relator, Romalis Levier, filed the instant application in which he appears to seek mandamus relief from this Court. For the following reasons, we deny relief.

Background

Relator alleges that on May 12, 2025, in criminal case number 16-355, he mailed a Request for Disclosure under the Public Records Law seeking specific records related to adjudication of his criminal matter. Relator's Public Records Request identified the following documents: (1) a copy of the waiver of rights and guilty plea form; (2) a copy of "Exhibit A" referenced by defense counsel during the Boykin proceedings; and (3) a copy of the Boykin form. The district court issued an order on May 29, 2025, denying his request for free production, advising that transcripts may be purchased from the Chief of Court Reporters, that court record documents (including the bill of information, waiver of rights form, minute extracts, and commitment forms) may be obtained from the Jefferson Parish Clerk of Court at cost, and that any District Attorney

file materials are available from the District Attorney at a per-page cost and without any obligation to mail them.

Relator thereafter mailed a Petition to Institute Civil Proceedings for a writ of mandamus (assigned civil case number 868-379) on June 23, 2025, and received notice on July 19, 2025, to submit an In Forma Pauperis Affidavit and certified trust fund account statement. On August 25, 2025, he mailed the completed, notarized affidavit and statement, along with a letter noting missing pages. On December 12, 2025, relator mailed a Petition for Writ of Mandamus (filed in case number 16-335), to the district court requesting notice of status/disposition of his case and the cost to obtain requested documents pursuant to his public records request. Thereafter, he filed the instant writ application seeking mandamus relief, asserting the district court has yet to respond to his request.

Discussion

A mandamus proceeding brought under the Public Records Law is a civil action. *See Landis v. Moreau*, 00-1157 (La. 2/21/01), 779 So.2d 691, 696. Relator's four filings: (1) Petition to Institute Civil Proceedings at the Trial Court Level for a Writ of Mandamus Against the District Attorney, (2) Request for Disclosure of the District Attorney's Records Pertaining to Criminal Litigation that is Finally Adjudicated or Otherwise Settled Public Records Law; (3) In Forma Pauperis application; and (4) In Forma Pauperis affidavit were all filed in civil court under case number 868-379 on August 29, 2025.

According to the record in civil case number 868-379, the district court denied all four of the filings on September 3, 2025. However, on review, it appears relator did not receive a copy of the September 3, 2025 rulings. The service return, dated September 22, 2025, indicates that it was returned to the district court as "refused – unable to verify."

The record shows that the district court denied relator's pleadings in civil case number 868-379 on September 3, 2025, therefore, relator's request for mandamus relief filed in his criminal case number 16-335 is moot. However, because the service return indicates that relator did not receive a copy of the September 3, 2025 civil rulings in case number 868-379, we provide relator with a courtesy copy of same.

For the foregoing reasons, relator's request for mandamus relief is denied.

Gretna, Louisiana, this 5th day of February, 2026.

TSM
SMC

ROMALIS LEVIER

VERSUS

JEFFERSON PARISH, CLERK OF
COURT OFFICE and The District
Attorney Paul Connick, et. al

* THE CIVIL DISTRICT COURT

* PARISH OF JEFFERSON

* STATE OF LOUISIANA

* CASE NUMBER: 16-0355

* 868-379L
DIVISION:

Filed: _____

Deputy Clerk of Court

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the State of Louisiana in and the Jefferson Parish Clerk of Court Office, 24th Judicial District Court, shall show cause on the _____ day of _____, 2025, at _____ a.m. / p.m. why the Petitioner Romalis Levier's foregoing Petition to Institute Civil Proceedings at the Trial Court Level for a Writ of Mandamus Against the District Attorney's Office Pursuant to the Louisiana Public Records Law should not be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the Clerk of Court shall serve the Petitioner and the Petitioner's custodian, Travis Day, Warden of the Rayburn Correctional Center in Angie, Louisiana with a copy of this order.

THE ORDERER AND SIGNED this 03 day of September 2025

Gretna, Louisiana.

Donald A. Rowan
CIVIL DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

**Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal
State of Louisiana**

NO. 26-KH-39

STATE OF LOUISIANA

versus

ROMALIS LEVIER

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. MOLAISON, JR.
SCOTT U. SCHLEGEL
TIMOTHY S. MARCEL

JUDGES



FIFTH CIRCUIT
101 DERBIGNY STREET (70053)
POST OFFICE BOX 489
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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 02/05/2026 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:

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

CURTIS B. PURSELL
CLERK OF COURT

26-KH-39

E-NOTIFIED

24th Judicial District Court (Clerk)
Honorable Danyelle M. Taylor (DISTRICT JUDGE)
Thomas J. Butler (Respondent)

MAILED

Romalis Levier #732524 (Relator)
Rayburn Correctional Center
27268 Highway 21
Angie, LA 70426