

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

No. 26-K-197

CELIUS GRAY

versus

STATE OF LOUISIANA

IN RE CELIUS GRAY
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", No. 20-5560

TRUE COPY

May 12, 2026



LINDA TRAN
DEPUTY CLERK

Panel composed of Judges Fredericka Homberg Wicker,
Jude G. Gravois, and Scott U. Schlegel

WRIT DENIED

In this *pro se* writ application, defendant/relator, Celius Gray, seeks a “writ of prohibition” from this Court, arguing that the trial court has violated La. C.Cr.P. art. 648(A)(2)(d) because it has not held a contradictory hearing since September 18, 2025 regarding defendant’s competency to stand trial. He seeks a writ from this Court directing the district court to set a date for a competency hearing.

On November 13, 2024, the trial court found defendant lacks the mental capacity to understand the proceedings against him or to assist in his defense and remanded him to the Eastern Louisiana Mental Health System. When the question of the defendant’s mental incapacity to proceed is raised, there shall be no further steps in the criminal prosecution, except the institution of prosecution, until the defendant is found to have the mental capacity to proceed. La. C.Cr.P. art. 642. If the court determines that the defendant lacks mental capacity to proceed, the proceedings shall be suspended. La. C.Cr.P. art. 648(A).

Upon review, on the showing made, it does not appear that relator has first sought relief in the trial court. Accordingly, there is nothing for this Court to review. In any event, examination of relator's official record indicates that a competency hearing was set in this case for May 6, 2026, but has been continued to June 3, 2026. Accordingly, the writ application is denied.

Gretna, Louisiana, this 12th day of May, 2026.

**JGG
FHW
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



FIFTH CIRCUIT
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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 **05/12/2026** 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-K-197

E-NOTIFIED

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

MAILED

Celius Gray #1000677028 (Relator)
Jefferson Parish Correctional Center
P. O. Box 388
Gretna, LA 70054