

The Supreme Court of Ohio

CASE ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 31, 2026

[Cite as *03/31/2026 Case Announcements #2, 2026-Ohio-1123.*]

MERIT DECISIONS WITH OPINIONS

2024-1428. State ex rel. Harris v. Starcher, Slip Opinion No. 2026-Ohio-1089.

In Mandamus. On relator's motion for an order allowing computer forensic analysis, motion for leave to file rebuttal evidence, and motion for sanctions. Motions denied. Writ and relator's demand for court and miscellaneous costs denied. Relator awarded \$2,000 in statutory damages.

Brunner, Deters, Hawkins, and Shanahan, JJ., concur.

Kennedy, C.J., concurs in part and dissents in part, with an opinion.

Fischer, J., concurs in part and dissents in part and would not award any statutory damages.

DeWine, J., concurs in part and dissents in part and would not award statutory damages as to the third public-records request.

2024-1429. Whirlpool Corp. v. Rice, Slip Opinion No. 2026-Ohio-1094.

Franklin App. No. 22AP-361, [2024-Ohio-3252](#). On appellant's motion for oral argument. Motion denied. Judgment affirmed.

Fischer, Brunner, Hawkins, and Shanahan, JJ., concur.

DeWine, J., concurs in judgment only, with an opinion joined by Deters, J.

Kennedy, C.J., dissents, with an opinion.

2024-1711. State ex rel. Zimmerman v. Avon Lake, Slip Opinion No. 2026-Ohio-1090.

In Mandamus. On relators’ “motion for costs of the proceedings” and “motion for rebuttal evidence and/or motion to strike.” Motions denied. Writ granted. Relators awarded court costs. Relators’ requests for attorney fees and statutory damages denied. Respondents’ motion for protective order denied as moot.

Kennedy, C.J., and Fischer, DeWine, Brunner, Deters, Hawkins, and Shanahan, JJ., concur.

MOTION AND PROCEDURAL RULINGS

2024-1569. Checkfree Servs. Corp. v. Harris.

Board of Tax Appeals, 2019-43. On appellant’s motion for new oral-argument date. Motion granted. Oral argument scheduled for May 19, 2026, canceled. Oral argument will be rescheduled at a later date.

DISCIPLINARY CASES

2023-0469. Disciplinary Counsel v. Romer.

On petition for reinstatement by respondent, Shawn Alexander Romer, Attorney Registration No. 0084251, last known business address in Cleveland, Ohio. Petition granted. Shawn Alexander Romer reinstated to the practice of law.

Brunner, J., not participating.

2026-0147. In re Resignation of Piergies.

On application for retirement or resignation of James Douglas Piergies, Attorney Registration No. 0032764, last known address in Brookville, Ohio. Application accepted as a resignation with disciplinary action pending.

Kennedy, C.J., dissents.

Brunner, J., not participating.