

The Supreme Court of Ohio

CASE ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 18, 2026

[Cite as *02/18/2026 Case Announcements*, 2026-Ohio-533.]

MERIT DECISIONS WITH OPINIONS

2024-0899. State v. Ballish, Slip Opinion No. 2026-Ohio-503.

Geauga App. No. 2023-G-0044, [2024-Ohio-1855](#). Judgment reversed and trial court's sentencing order reinstated.

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

2024-1089. State ex rel. Harris v. Watson, Slip Opinion No. 2026-Ohio-508.

In Mandamus. On relator's motion to partially withdraw motion to strike affidavit. Motion granted. Relator's motion to strike the affidavit denied. Relator's request for sanctions and motion for judicial notice denied. Writ granted in part and denied in part. Relator awarded court costs and \$3,000 in statutory damages. Relator's request for reimbursement for copying and mailing costs denied. Relator's request for a civil forfeiture under R.C. 149.351 dismissed.

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

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

Fischer, J., dissents.

2024-1169. State ex rel. Lawrence v. Dept. of Rehab. & Corr., Slip Opinion No. 2026-Ohio-509.

In Mandamus. Limited writ granted. Relator's request for court costs denied and request for statutory damages deferred pending respondent's compliance with the limited writ.

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

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

MOTION AND PROCEDURAL RULINGS

2026-0138. Craig v. Cromes.

Cuyahoga App. No. 114917, [2025-Ohio-5759](#). On motion for permission to appear pro hac vice of Daniel R. Suhr and amended motion for permission to appear pro hac vice of Christopher Mills. Motions granted. Pursuant to Gov.Bar R. XII(4), counsel shall file a notice of permission to appear pro hac vice with the Supreme Court's Office of Attorney Services within 30 days.

DISCIPLINARY CASES

2025-1409. In re Resignation of McMahon.

Sua sponte, Paige James McMahon, Attorney Registration No. 0040755, last known business address in Chillicothe, Ohio, found in contempt for failure to surrender certificate of admission and failure to file an affidavit of compliance on or before January 14, 2026.

2025-1454. In re Resignation of Westfall.

Sua sponte, Elizabeth V. Westfall, Attorney Registration No. 0078091, last known business address in Dublin, Ohio, found in contempt for failure to surrender certificate of admission and failure to file an affidavit of compliance on or before January 12, 2026.

MISCELLANEOUS DISMISSALS

2025-1606. Youngblood v. Tornichio.

Greene App. No. 2025-CA-52. Appellant has not filed a merit brief, due February 9, 2026, in compliance with the Rules of Practice of the Supreme Court of Ohio and therefore has failed to prosecute this cause with the requisite diligence. Cause dismissed.

MEDIATION MATTERS

2025-0820. Akron v. Harris.

Board of Tax Appeals, No. 2022-282. Pursuant to R.C. 2710.06(B)(1), the court has been notified that the parties to this case have reached a settlement. The case is returned to the regular docket under Rule 19.01. Appellant shall file either an application for dismissal or a notice of failure of settlement within 60 days. The case will be dismissed for want of prosecution if an application for dismissal or a notice of failure of settlement is not filed within 60 days.

2025-1054. State ex rel. Rosnick v. Seneca Cty. Sheriff's Office.

In Mandamus. Pursuant to R.C. 2710.06(B)(1), the court has been notified that the parties to this case have reached a settlement. The case is returned to the regular docket under Rule 19.01. Relator shall file either an application for dismissal or a notice of failure of settlement within 60 days. The case will be dismissed for want of prosecution if an application for dismissal or a notice of failure of settlement is not filed within 60 days.

2026-0158. State ex rel. Wyne v. Kull.

In Mandamus. The court refers this case to mediation under Rule 19.01 and stays all filing deadlines for this case until further order of this court. The court will not issue any decision on the merits of this case until mediation has concluded.