

## Appendix A-1

**DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL, FIRST  
DISTRICT  
2000 Drayton Drive  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0950  
Telephone No. (850)488-6151**

July 11, 2022

CASE NO.: 1D21-1762  
L.T. No.: 11-340CA

Jeffrey Lance Hill, Sr. v. Suwannee River Water  
Management District

**Appellant / Petitioner(s), Appellee / Respondent(s)**

BY ORDER OF THE COURT:

Appellant's motion docketed June 06, 2022, for  
rehearing is denied.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is (a true copy of) the original court order.

**Served:**

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## Appendix A-2

“s/” Kristina Samuels  
KRISTINA SAMUELS, CLERK

Appendix B-1

**MANDATE**

**from**

**FIRST DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL  
STATE OF FLORIDA**

This case having been brought to the Court, and after due consideration the Court having issued its opinion;

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED that further proceedings, if required, be had in accordance with the opinion of this Court, and with the rules of procedure, and laws in the State of Florida.

WITNESS the Honorable Lori S. Rowe, Chief Judge, of the District Court of Appeal of Florida, First District, and the seal of said Court at Tallahassee, Florida, on this day.

June 06, 2022

Jeffrey Lance Hill, Sr. v.  
Suwannee River Water Management District

DCA Case No.: 1D21-1762  
Lower Tribunal Case No.: 11-340CA

## Appendix B-2

“s/” Kristina Samuels

KRISTINA SAMUELS, CLERK  
District Court of Appeal of Florida,  
First District

gl

Mandate and opinion to: Hon. James M. Swisher  
Jr., Clerk

Cc: (without attached opinion)

Appendix C-1

**First District Court of Appeal**  
**State of Florida**

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No. 1D21-1762

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Jeffrey Lance Hill, Sr.,

Appellant,

v.

Suwannee River Water  
Management District,

Appellee,

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On appeal from the Circuit Court for Columbia  
County. William F. Williams, Judge.

May 19, 2022

Per Curiam.

Affirmed,

Roberts, M.K. Thomas, and Nordby, JJ., concur.

Appendix C-2

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*Not final until disposition of any  
timely and authorized motion under  
Fla. R. App. P. 9.330 or 9.331*

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Appendix D-1

**DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL, FIRST  
DISTRICT**  
**2000 Drayton Drive**  
**Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0950**  
**Telephone No. (850)488-6151**

May 19, 2022

CASE NO.: 1D21-1762  
L.T. No.: 11-340CA

Jeffrey Lance Hill, Sr. v. Suwannee River Water  
Management District

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Appellant / Petitioner(s), Appellee / Respondent(s)

BY ORDER OF THE COURT:

Appellant's motion docketed December 21, 2022, for attorney's fees is granted. The cause is remanded to the trial court to assess the amount.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is (a true copy of) the original court order.

Served:

David C. Willis	George T. Reeves
Jeffrey Lance Hill Sr.	Hon. James M. Swisher Jr., Clerk

Appendix D-2

co

“s/r” Kristina Samuels  
KRISTINA SAMUELS, CLERK

Appendix E-1

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE  
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY,  
FLORIDA

JEFFREY LANCE HILL, SR., and  
LINDA PETRY HILL,

Plaintiffs,

CASE NO.: 11-340-CA

v.

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT  
DISTRICT,

Defendant,

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**ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION  
FOR REHEARING**

THIS CAUSE having come before the Court on April 7, 2021 upon Plaintiff Jeffrey L. Hill, Sr.'s Motion for Rehearing, and the Court having reviewed the Motion and Defendant's Response, there being no appearance on behalf of Plaintiff Jeffrey L. Hill, Sr. despite the hearing being properly noticed, it is thereupon<sup>1</sup>

## Appendix E-2

### **ORDER AND ADJUDGED THAT:**

1. Plaintiffs Motion for Rehearing is DENIED for the reasons set forth below.
2. Plaintiff did not file a response to Defendant's Motion for Sanctions, nor did he appear at the hearing (despite being provided notice).
3. Plaintiff did not file a response to Defendant's Motion to Determine Reasonableness of Fees and Costs, nor did he appear at the hearing (despite being provided notice).
4. Subsequent to the Court entering Final Judgment, however, Plaintiff filed a Motion for Rehearing. Plaintiff's Motion is due to be denied.
5. First, Plaintiff asserts that the Undersigned

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<sup>1</sup>The Court served Plaintiff with a notice of hearing at the same address the Court used to serve Plaintiff with the Final Judgment. Plaintiffs Motion for Rehearing establishes that Plaintiff received the Final Judgment and, therefore, that Plaintiff receives mail at the address the Court has on file. Additionally, the Undersigned's judicial assistant called and left voicemails for Plaintiff regarding the April 7, 2021 hearing, but Plaintiff did not return the Undersigned's judicial assistant's phone calls or make any other effort to appear at the hearing.

### Appendix E-3

cannot hear this case because Plaintiff filed a federal court action against the Undersigned. However, Plaintiff failed to file a motion for disqualification on this issue, as required by Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.330, and the time for doing so has long since passed. Additionally, "[t]he fact that [a litigant] filed a lawsuit in federal court against [a judge] is as a matter of law, in and of itself, a legally insufficient basis to grant a motion for disqualification." *May v. S. Fla. Water Mgmt. Dist.*, 866 So. 2d 205, 206 (Fla. 4th DCA 2004).

6. Plaintiff also asserts that the Undersigned is not a circuit judge and that "this cause must be heard in Columbia County, Florida," Plaintiff has raised these issues on numerous occasions and the First District Court of Appeal has entered its Opinion finding that the Undersigned is duly authorized to sit as a Circuit Court Judge in Columbia County. Additionally, all hearings in the past year related to Defendant's Motion for Sanctions have been conducted remotely because of the COVID-19 pandemic, as per the administrative orders issued by the Chief Justice of the Florida supreme Court.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Live Oak, Suwannee County, Florida, this the 11 day of May, 2021.

Appendix E-4

“s/” William F. Williams

William F. Williams, III  
Acting Circuit Court Judge

Appendix E-5

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 12 day of May, 2021 a conformed copy of the foregoing Order was furnished via  U.S. Mail;  e-file on:

Jeffrey Lance Hill, Sr.  
Linda Petry Hill  
908 SE Country Club Road  
Lake City, FL 32025

David C. Willis, Esquire  
Chase E. Hattaway, Esquire  
RUMBERGER, KIRK & CALDWELL, P.A.  
Post Office Box 1873  
Orlando, Florida 32802-1873  
Email: [dwillis@rumberger.com](mailto:dwillis@rumberger.com)  
[docketingorlando@rumberger.com](mailto:docketingorlando@rumberger.com)  
[dwillissecy@rumberger.com](mailto:dwillissecy@rumberger.com) ]  
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Leonard J. Dietzen, Esquire  
RUMBERGER, KIRK & CALDWELL, P.A.  
101 North Monroe Street, Suite 120  
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[docketingorlando@rumberger.com](mailto:docketingorlando@rumberger.com)

Appendix E-6

ldietzensecy@rumberger.com

*Counsel for Defendant, Suwannee River  
Water Management District*

“s/” *J. Cameron*

Judicial Assistance

Appendix F-1

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE  
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY,  
FLORIDA

JEFFREY LANCE HILL, SR., and  
LINDA PETRY HILL,

Plaintiffs,

v.

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT  
DISTRICT,

Defendant,

/

**FINAL JUDGMENT TAXING ATTORNEY'S  
FEES AND COSTS**

THIS CAUSE having come before the  
Court upon March 10, 2021, upon Defendant's

## Appendix F-2

Motion to Determine Reasonableness of Fees and Costs and Defendant's Amended Motion to Tax Costs, and the Court having considered the evidence presented by and the arguments made by Counsel for Defendant, having confirmed that Plaintiffs failed to file a response to either Motion, and there being no appearance on behalf of Plaintiffs Jeffrey Lance Hill, Sr. or Linda Petry Hill, despite Defendant attempting to coordinate a date for the hearing with Plaintiffs and Defendant properly noticing the hearing by serving Plaintiffs with a copy of the Notice of Hearing and the Court's Judicial Assistant speaking to Plaintiff Jeffrey Hill on the morning of the hearing and Plaintiff Jeffrey Hill stating that he would not attend the hearing, the Court finds and rules as follows:

1. On August 1, 2011, Plaintiffs filed their Complaint against the Defendant.
2. On October 16, 2017, the Defendant filed a Motion for Sanctions Awarding Attorney's Fees because of Plaintiffs' repeated misconduct.
3. On October 17, 2017, the Defendant filed its Motion for Attorney's Fees Pursuant to Florida Statutes, Section 57.105.
4. On October 18, 2017, the Court conducted a bench trial.
5. On November 28, 2017, the Court entered a Final Judgment in the Defendant's favor. The

## Appendix F-3

Court entered an Amended Final Judgment on November 29, 2017, to correct scrivener's errors. The Court's Final Judgment was affirmed on appeal by the First District Court of Appeals.

6. Thereafter, the Defendant timely filed its Motion for Entitlement to Attorney's Fees and Motion to Tax Costs. Plaintiffs did not file any response to Defendant's Motion for Entitlement to Attorney's Fees and Motion to Tax Costs, nor did Plaintiffs attend the hearing on same.
7. On November 2, 2020, the Court entered its Order Granting Motion for Sanctions. In the Order, the Court also specifically ordered the parties to do the following:
  - A. Within thirty (30) days, Defendant was to file a motion setting forth the amount of reasonable attorney's fees incurred after issuance of the Mandate by the First District Court of Appeal on May 4, 2017. Defendant's motion was to include an affidavit from an attorney in good standing with the Florida Bar attesting to the reasonableness of Defendant's attorney's fees.
  - B. If Plaintiffs disputed the amount of the attorney's fees sought by Defendant, Plaintiffs were ordered to file within

## Appendix F-4

forty-five (45) days of Defendant's Motion a written response setting forth the amount of reasonable attorney's fees Plaintiffs contended should be awarded by the Court.

8. Thereafter, Defendant timely filed its Motion to Determine Reasonableness of Fees and Costs on December 2, 2020. Defendant also filed its Amended Motion to Tax Costs.
9. Plaintiffs did not file a response to Defendants' Motion to Determine Reasonableness of Fees and Costs, as the Court's November 2, 2020 Order required. Plaintiffs also did not file a response to Defendant's Amended Motion to Tax Costs.
10. Thereafter, Defendant scheduled a hearing for its Motion to Determine Reasonableness of Fees and Costs and Amended Motion to Tax Costs. Defendant attempted to coordinate a date for the hearing with Plaintiffs, but Plaintiffs refused to cooperate. Defendant then set the hearing for March 10, 2021 at 9:00 A.M. and served Plaintiffs with a notice informing Plaintiffs of the date and time of the hearing. Defendants' notice also informed Plaintiffs that the hearing would be conducted via Microsoft Teams.

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11. At approximately 8:15 A.M. on March 10, 2021, the Court's judicial assistant contacted Plaintiff Jeffrey Hill via telephone to ensure Plaintiffs (who are married) would attend the hearing. Plaintiff Jeffrey Hill has claimed to lack access to a computer, which the Court knows to be false given that Plaintiff is operating a website about this litigation, has filed materials in a federal court action evidencing that he has an email address, and has requested Defendant respond to public records requests by providing materials via email. Nevertheless, the Court's judicial assistant informed Plaintiff that he could attend the hearing via telephone, instead of videoconference. Plaintiff obviously has access to a telephone given that the Court's judicial assistant spoke to Plaintiff using his telephone. In response, Plaintiff stated that the Undersigned lacks authority to hear this case, and that Plaintiffs would not attend the hearing.
12. Consequently, the Court conducted the hearing without Plaintiffs present. The hearing was attended by Defendants' Counsel, David Willis and Chase Hattaway, as well as Defendant's fee expert, Adam Morrison, Esq. During the hearing, Mr. Morrison testified under oath about his opinions concerning the reasonableness of Defendant's attorney's fees.

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13. Having considered the evidence offered by Defendant's counsel together with the testimony of Defendant's expert witness, the amount of reasonable attorney's fees recoverable by Defendant is calculated as follows:
  - A. Since May 4, 2017, the reasonable number of hours expended by Defendant's counsel in prosecuting this action is 706.1 hours.
  - B. The hourly rates charged by the law firm of Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell, P.A. to the Defendant (a partner rate of \$180.00 per hour and an associate rate of \$145.00 per hour) constitute reasonable hourly rates for the services rendered by Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell, P.A. in prosecuting this action since May 4, 2017.
  - C. Based upon the factors set forth in Florida Patient's Compensation Fund v. Rowe, 472 So. 2d 1145 (Fla. 1985), the multiplication of the actual hourly rates charged by Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell, P.A., in prosecuting this action by the number of hours actually expended amounts to a total fee in the amount of \$104,792.50.

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14. The amount of costs the Defendant is entitled to recover is \$19,197.88. This is comprised of \$17,447.88 in recoverable costs as set forth in Defendant's Amended Motion to Tax Costs, and \$1,750.00 charged by fee expert Adam Morrison, Esq.<sup>1</sup>

Accordingly, it is ORDERED and ADJUDGED:

15. Defendant, SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, shall recover from Plaintiffs, JEFFREY LANCE HILL and LINDA PETRY HILL, the sum of:

Reasonable attorney's fees	\$104,792.50
Costs	<u>\$19,197.88</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$123,990.38</b>

Which sum shall bear interest at the prevailing statutory interest rate of 4.81 % per annum from this date through April 1 of this current year, for all of which let execution issue. Thereafter, on July 1, October 1, January 1 and April 1 of each year until the judgment is paid, the interest rate will adjust in accordance with section 55.03, Florida Statutes.

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<sup>1</sup>Defendant requested \$4,654.57 in travel costs in its Amended Motion to Tax Costs but abandoned its request for these costs at the hearing. Thus, the Court did not award Defendant these travel costs.

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16. The judgment debtors, Plaintiffs Jeffrey Hill, Sr. and Linda Hill, shall complete under oath Florida Rule of Civil Procedure Form 1.977 (Fact Information Sheet), including all required attachments, and serve it on the judgment creditor's attorney, or the judgment creditor if the judgment creditor is not represented by an attorney, within forty-five ( 45) days from the date of this Final Judgment, unless the Final Judgment is satisfied, or post-judgment discovery is stayed.
17. Jurisdiction of this case is retained to enter further orders that are proper to compel the judgment debtor to complete form 1.977, including all required attachments, and serve it on the judgment creditor's attorney, or the judgment creditor if the judgment creditor is not represented by an attorney.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Live Oak, Suwannee County, Florida, this the 12 day of April 2021.

"s" William F. Williams

William F. Williams, III  
Acting Circuit Court Judge

Appendix F-9

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 13 day of April, 2021 a conformed copy of the foregoing Order was furnished via  U.S. Mail;  e-mail on:

Jeffrey Lance Hill, Sr.  
Linda Petry Hill  
908 SE Country Club Road  
Lake City, FL 32025

David C. Willis, Esquire  
Chase E. Hattaway, Esquire  
RUMBERGER, KIRK & CALDWELL, P.A.  
Post Office Box 1873  
Orlando, Florida 32802-1873  
Email: [dwillis@rumberger.com](mailto:dwillis@rumberger.com)  
[docketingorlando@rumberger.com](mailto:docketingorlando@rumberger.com)  
[dwillissecy@rumberger.com](mailto:dwillissecy@rumberger.com) ]  
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Appendix G-1

**SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA**

MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2022

CASE NO.: SC22-1045

Lower Tribunal No(s).: 1D21-1762;  
12201CA000340CAAXMX

JEFFREY L. HILL, SR., Petitioner(s)  
vs. SUWANNEE RIVER WATER  
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, Respondents

This case is hereby dismissed. This Court lacks Jurisdiction to review an unelaborated decision from a district court of appeal that is issued without opinion or explanation or that merely cites to an authority that is not a case pending review in, or reversed or quashed by, this court. See *Wheeler v. State*, 296 So. 3d 895(Fla 2020); *Wells v. State*, 132 So. 3d 1110(Fla 2014); *Jackson v. State*, 926 So. 2d 1262(Fla 2006); *Gandy v. State*, 846 So. 2d 1141(Fla 2003); *Stallworth v. Moore*, 827 So. 2d 974(Fla 2002); *Harrison v. Hyster Co.*, 515 So. 1279(Fla 1987); *Dodi Publ'g Co. v. Editorial Am. S.A.*, 385 So. 2d 1369(Fla 1980); *Jenkins v. State*, 385 So. 2d 1356(Fla 1980).

No motion for rehearing or reinstatement will be entertained by the Court.

A True Copy

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Case No.: SC22-1045

Page Two

Test:

Signed:

John A. Tomasino

Clerk, Supreme Court

Td

Served:

DAVID C. WILLIS

GEORGE T. REEVES

JEFFREY HILL, SR.

HON. WILLIAM F. WILLIAMS, III

HON. JAMES M. SWISHER, JR. CLERK

HON. KRISTINA SAMUELS, CLERK

Appendix H-1

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO. 2011-340-CA

ASSIGNMENT ORDER NO. 2016-25

JEFFREY L. HILL, SR. and LINDA P. HILL,  
Plaintiffs,

vs.

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, Defendants.

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ORDER OF REASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, The Honorable Gregory S. Parker, Circuit Court Judge filed an Order of Recusal in this matter on April 20, 2016, it is therefore:

ORDERED that The Honorable William F. Williams, III, Acting Circuit Court Judge is hereby assigned to preside over and hear any and all matters presented before him regarding this case.

DONE AND ORDERED in chambers at Perry, Taylor County, Florida, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016.

“s/” Greg Parker

Chief Judge, Third Judicial Circuit

Appendix H-2

Original to: Columbia County Clerk of Court

Copies to:

The Honorable Greg S. Parker

Chief Judge

The Honorable William F. William, III

Acting Circuit Court Judge

Lisa Butler

Court Administration

Mr. Jeffrey Lance Hill, Sr.

908 SE Country Club Road

Lake City, FL 32025

Linda Petry Hill

908 SE Country Club Road

Lake City, FL 32025

Brian            L.            Hayden,            Esquire,  
bhayden@rumberger.com