

No. _____

**IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

ARMANDO ARCE,
Applicant,

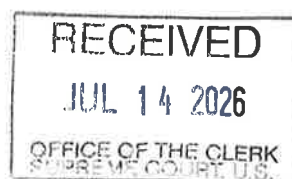
v.

CHIEF JUDGE TIMOTHY D. OSTERHAUS,
Respondent.

**APPLICATION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE
A PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI**

To the Honorable Clarence Thomas, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States and Circuit Justice for the Eleventh Circuit:

1. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 13.5, Applicant Armando Arce respectfully requests a 60-day extension of time, to and including **September 20, 2026**, within which to file a petition for a writ of certiorari. The Supreme Court of Florida issued its Per Curiam opinion on April 23, 2026, sanctioning Applicant and imposing a filing bar requiring Florida Bar member sign-off for all future filings related to Okaloosa County case numbers 462023DR002903CXXXXXX and 462023DR004081CXXXXXX. A copy of the opinion is attached (Exhibit A). The opinion expressly provides that "[n]o motion for rehearing or clarification will be considered by this Court."
2. Absent an extension, a petition for a writ of certiorari would be due on **July 22, 2026**. This application is being filed more than 10 days in advance of that date, and no prior application has been made in this case.
3. The jurisdiction of this Court would be invoked under **28 U.S.C. § 1257(a)**, which provides for review by writ of certiorari of final judgments or decrees rendered by the highest court of a State in which a decision could be had.
4. Good cause supports the requested extension for the following specific reasons:



a. Pro Se Status and Complexity of Federal Questions. Applicant is proceeding pro se and is not a lawyer. This case presents substantial and novel federal constitutional questions regarding the limits of state court authority to impose filing bars that foreclose all appellate review, the First Amendment right of access to courts, and the Fourteenth Amendment due process requirements for vexatious litigant designations. Adequate time is needed to research, analyze, and present these questions with the precision and clarity expected by this Court.

b. Multiple Concurrent Litigations. Applicant is currently engaged in active litigation across multiple forums, including: a federal habeas corpus petition in the Northern District of Florida (Case No. 3:26-cv-00472-MW-HTC); a civil rights action against Okaloosa County (Case No. 2024 CA 001601 C, trial set for October 5, 2026); and a foreclosure defense/inverse condemnation case (Case No. 2025 CA 000141 C). These concurrent proceedings demand substantial time and attention, limiting Applicant's ability to devote the necessary focus to preparing a petition for this Court.

c. Veteran with Service-Connected Disabilities. Applicant is a U.S. Army National Guard combat veteran with two deployments (Afghanistan 2008, Kuwait 2012) and a 90% VA service-connected disability rating. His disabilities affect his ability to sustain the prolonged concentration required for preparation of a Supreme Court filing.

d. Financial Constraints. Applicant's sole income is VA disability compensation. He is unable to retain counsel and must prepare all filings himself. He will be filing concurrently a Motion for Leave to Proceed In Forma Pauperis.

5. The questions presented in this case are substantial and warrant careful preparation. The decision below raises significant issues concerning:

a. Whether the First and Fourteenth Amendments permit successive state court filing bars—imposed first by a state intermediate appellate court and then by a state supreme court—that collectively foreclose all state appellate review of a claimed jurisdictional defect, where no state court has conducted merits analysis of the underlying legal claim.

b. Whether due process requires that before imposing a filing bar, a court must make specific findings that individual filings lacked an arguable basis in law or fact, rather than relying solely on the cumulative number of filings and their procedural outcomes.

c. Whether a state supreme court's filing bar requiring attorney sign-off as a precondition to court access violates a pro se litigant's right of access to courts where the litigant is indigent and unable to retain counsel, effectively converting a conditional filing bar into an absolute bar.

6. This is the first request for an extension of time in this matter. No previous application has been made to any Justice.

Respectfully submitted,



ARMANDO ARCE
Pro Se Applicant
582 S. Savage Street
Crestview, Florida 32536
Telephone: (850) 305-2613
Email: armando.arce@live.com

Date: June 17, 2026

Supreme Court of Florida

No. SC2025-1811

ARMANDO ARCE,
Petitioner,

vs.

CHIEF JUDGE TIMOTHY D. OSTERHAUS,
Respondent.

April 23, 2026

PER CURIAM.

Armando Arce, a pro se litigant, filed in the First District Court of Appeal a petition for writ of mandamus and two motions to stay, all of which were transferred to this Court. The petition and motions raised issues concerning two domestic relations cases litigated in the First Judicial Circuit (Okaloosa County) in case numbers 462023DR002903CXXXXX and 462023DR004081CXXXXX.¹

In the mandamus petition, Arce sought an order compelling

1. We have jurisdiction. See art. V, § 3(b)(8), Fla. Const.

Chief Judge Timothy D. Osterhaus of the First District Court of Appeal to remove circuit court Judge Jennie Kinsey from exercising any “administrative supervision” or authority over cases in the First Judicial Circuit.² Arce claimed that this was not an attempt to recuse Judge Kinsey from a specific case. Rather, his asserted basis for relief was the fact that Judge Kinsey’s mother was once the subject of a Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission case. *See In re Kinsey*, 842 So. 2d 77 (Fla. 2003). In addition, Arce sought to stay all proceedings related to case numbers 462023DR002903CXXXXX and 462023DR004081CXXXXX in both the circuit court and the First District Court of Appeal, notwithstanding the fact that all cases in the district court were closed.

On January 16, 2026, we denied mandamus relief and expressly retained jurisdiction to pursue possible sanctions against Arce. *Arce v. Chief Judge Timothy D. Osterhaus*, No. SC2025-1811 (Fla. Jan. 16, 2026); *see* Fla. R. App. P. 9.410(a) (Sanctions; Court’s Motion). We now find that Arce has failed to show cause why he

2. Judge Kinsey is the presiding judge in Arce’s ongoing domestic relations cases.

should not be barred, and we sanction him as set forth below.

Arce has filed numerous cases in this Court and in the First District Court of Appeal pertaining to his underlying domestic relations cases. The First District barred Arce from filing any pro se pleadings related to case number 462023DR002903CXXXXX. *Arce v. Arce*, No. 1D2025-1602 (Fla. 1st DCA Sept. 24, 2025). It then barred him from all future pro se filings in that court. *Arce v. Arce*, No. 1D2025-1404 (Fla. 1st DCA Dec. 18, 2025).

Including the mandamus petition in this case, Arce has filed fifteen pro se extraordinary petitions or notices to invoke with this Court since 2024, all related to Okaloosa County case numbers 462023DR002903CXXXXX and 462023DR004081CXXXXX.³ The

3. See *Arce v. Arce*, No. SC2024-1822 (Fla. Jan. 31, 2025) (mandamus dismissed); *Arce v. Arce*, No. SC2025-0771 (Fla. June 9, 2025) (mandamus transferred); *Arce v. Arce*, No. SC2025-0706 (Fla. June 27, 2025) (habeas denied); *Arce v. Arce*, No. SC2025-1055 (Fla. Aug. 12, 2025) (prohibition denied); *Arce v. Arce*, No. SC2025-1322 (Fla. Sept. 2, 2025) (notice to invoke dismissed); *Arce v. Arce*, No. SC2025-1337 (Fla. Sept. 3, 2025) (notice to invoke dismissed); *Arce v. Arce*, No. SC2025-1491 (Fla. Sept. 29, 2025) (notice to invoke dismissed); *Arce v. Arce*, No. SC2025-1492 (Fla. Sept. 29, 2025) (notice to invoke dismissed); *Arce v. Arce*, No. SC2025-1381 (Fla. Oct. 15, 2025) (habeas denied); *Arce v. Arce*, No. SC2025-1653 (Fla. Oct. 22, 2025) (appeal transferred); *Arce v. Arce*, No. SC2025-1652 (Fla. Oct. 22, 2025) (appeal transferred); *Arce v. Arce*, No. SC2025-1608 (Fla. Oct. 23,

Court has never granted the relief sought in any of those cases; his petitions and notices were either denied, dismissed, or transferred—only to be denied or dismissed by the lower court.

In response to this Court’s show cause order, Arce repeats much of the argument from his petition—he suggests that he will persist in challenging the domestic violence injunction and insists that his pleadings are justified, not frivolous.

We disagree. “Frivolous” is defined as “[l]acking in high purpose; trifling, trivial, and silly” and “[l]acking a legal basis or legal merit; manifestly insufficient as a matter of law.” *Black’s Law Dictionary* (12th ed. 2024); *see also Neitzke v. Williams*, 490 U.S. 319, 325 (1989) (stating that a complaint is frivolous “where it lacks an arguable basis either in law or in fact”). Regarding the instant petition, Arce’s request to prohibit Judge Kinsey from serving as administrative judge is simply an attempt to circumvent his previously denied attempts to recuse Judge Kinsey in his domestic

2025) (prohibition denied); *Arce v. Arce*, No. SC2025-1683 (Fla. Oct. 29, 2025) (notice to invoke dismissed); *Arce v. Arce*, No. SC2025-1755 (Fla. Jan. 20, 2026) (mandamus denied).

relations cases. Arce's prior cases before this Court were similarly frivolous.

Upon consideration of Arce's response, we find that he has failed to show cause why sanctions should not be imposed. Therefore, based on Arce's extensive history of filing pro se petitions and requests for relief that were frivolous or otherwise inappropriate for this Court's review, we now find that he has abused this Court's limited judicial resources. *See Pettway v. McNeil*, 987 So. 2d 20, 22 (Fla. 2008) (explaining that this Court has previously "exercised the inherent judicial authority to sanction an abusive litigant" and that "[o]ne justification for such a sanction lies in the protection of the rights of others to have the Court conduct timely reviews of their legitimate filings"). If no action is taken, Arce will continue to burden this Court's resources.

Accordingly, we direct the Clerk of this Court to reject any future pleadings or other requests for relief submitted by Armando Arce relating to case numbers 462023DR002903CXXXXX and 462023DR004081CXXXXX, unless such filings are signed by a member in good standing of The Florida Bar.

No motion for rehearing or clarification will be considered by

this Court.

It is so ordered.

MUÑIZ, C.J., and LABARGA, COURIEL, GROSSHANS, FRANCIS,
SASSO, and TANENBAUM, JJ., concur.

Original Proceeding – Mandamus

Armando Arce, pro se, Crestview, Florida,

for Petitioner

No appearance for Respondent

No. _____

**IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

ARMANDO ARCE,
Applicant,

v.

CHIEF JUDGE TIMOTHY D. OSTERHAUS,
Respondent.

PROOF OF SERVICE

I, **ARMANDO ARCE**, do declare that on June 17, 2026, as required by Supreme Court Rules 22 and 29, I have served the enclosed **APPLICATION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE A PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI** (with the attached opinion of the Supreme Court of Florida) on each party to the above proceeding or that party's counsel, and on every other person required to be served, by depositing an envelope containing the above document in the United States mail, properly addressed to each of them, with first-class postage prepaid.

The names and addresses of those served are as follows:

Respondent:

Chief Judge Timothy D. Osterhaus
First District Court of Appeal
2000 Drayton Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0950

Other interested party:

Jennifer Arce
4250 Antioch Road
Crestview, FL 32536

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on June 17, 2026



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Pro Se Applicant
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