

Court of Appeals of the State of Georgia

ATLANTA, June 30, 2026

The Court of Appeals hereby passes the following order:

A26A2334. LUCKY BUCKS, LLC et al v. SHREE SAT KEVAL, INC.

The trial court entered an order requiring Lucky Bucks, LLC to pay Shree Sat Keval, Inc. and Tejal Patel attorney fees and costs pursuant to OCGA § 9-15-14. Lucky Bucks filed both an application for discretionary appeal and a direct appeal from that order. This Court denied the application for discretionary appeal. Case No A26D0561 (Jun. 22, 2026). This is the direct appeal. We, however, lack jurisdiction for two reasons.

First, Lucky Bucks is not entitled to a direct appeal. An appeal from a trial court order awarding attorney fees under OCGA § 9-15-14 must be initiated by filing an application for discretionary review. OCGA § 5-6-35(a)(10), (b); *Low v. Swift*, 367 Ga. App. 874, 876 (889 SE2d 122) (2023).

Second, this Court's denial of Lucky Bucks's application for discretionary appeal was a decision on the merits. See *Elrod v. Sunflower Meadows Dev., LLC*, 322 Ga. App. 666, 670(4) (745 SE2d 846) (2013) (“[W]hen this Court examines a request for a discretionary appeal, it acts in an error-correcting mode such that a denial of the application is on the merits, and the order denying the application is res judicata with respect to the substance of the requested review.”) (punctuation omitted). Thus, Lucky Bucks has no right to a direct appeal from the same order. See *Northwest Social & Civic Club v. Franklin*, 276 Ga. 859, 860 (583 SE2d 858) (2003) (punctuation omitted); see also *Hook v. Bergen*, 286 Ga. App. 258, 261(1) (649 SE2d 313) (2007) (holding that party was estopped from seeking further judicial review of same order when discretionary application had been denied).

For these reasons, we lack jurisdiction over this direct appeal, which is hereby
DISMISSED.



Court of Appeals of the State of Georgia

Clerk's Office, Atlanta, 06/30/2026

*I certify that the above is a true extract from
the minutes of the Court of Appeals of Georgia.*

*Witness my signature and the seal of said court
hereto affixed the day and year last above written.*

Christina Bailey Smith

, Clerk.