

# Court of Appeals of the State of Georgia

ATLANTA, July 16, 2026

*The Court of Appeals hereby passes the following order:*

## **A26O0020. FRANK SCHWINDLER v. ROBERT S. REEVES, JUDGE.**

Frank Schwindler was convicted of child molestation and other crimes, and we affirmed his convictions on appeal. *Schwindler v. State*, 254 Ga. App. 579 (563 SE2d 154) (2002). Since then, Schwindler has filed multiple habeas petitions in both state and federal court, as well as lawsuits alleging lack of access to legal materials. It appears that he currently has one habeas petition pending in the Supreme Court of Georgia. See *Schwindler v. Stewart*, S26H1050 (docketed Mar. 21, 2026). Schwindler now seeks original mandamus relief in this Court. For reasons that follow, we dismiss the petition.

In the petition, Schwindler alleges that he filed an extraordinary motion for new trial in the trial court, as well as various motions seeking access to legal materials, but Chief Judge Robert S. Reeves has not ruled on these motions, thereby hampering his ability to prosecute his habeas case. Schwindler further alleges that in 2025, he filed a mandamus petition against Judge Reeves seeking rulings on his pending motions, but Judge Reeves has neither ruled on the petition nor recused himself from it. Schwindler seeks an order from this Court directing Judge Reeves to rule on his pending motions and to recuse himself from the superior court mandamus petition.<sup>1</sup>

“Generally, the superior courts of this state have the power, in proper cases, to

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<sup>1</sup> Judge Reeves has responded to the petition by a letter stating that he has ruled on all of Schwindler’s pending motions and that Schwindler’s superior court mandamus petition is therefore moot. Schwindler has not included copies of the superior court mandamus petition or the allegedly pending motions.

issue process in the nature of mandamus, prohibition, specific performance, quo warranto, and injunction, and hence the need to resort to the appellate courts for such relief by petition filed in the appellate courts will be extremely rare.” *Brown v. Johnson*, 251 Ga. 436, 436 (306 SE2d 655) (1983); see also Ga. Const. of 1983, Art. VI, Sec. I, Par. IV. As the Supreme Court of Georgia recently made clear, an appellate court’s authority to issue such writs “is connected only to such powers as necessary in aid of its jurisdiction or to protect or effectuate its judgments. It does not grant jurisdiction to [the appellate court] to issue process as an original matter wholly unconnected to its appellate jurisdiction.” *Arnold v. Alexander*, 321 Ga. 330, 334(1) (914 SE2d 311) (2025) (punctuation omitted).

This Court affirmed Schwindler’s criminal convictions more than 20 years ago, and he has no matters currently pending here. Thus, he fails to show that any relief is necessary from this Court to aid our jurisdiction or protect or effectuate our judgment. Accordingly, this petition is hereby DISMISSED.



*Court of Appeals of the State of Georgia*

*Clerk’s Office, Atlanta, 07/16/2026*

*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.