

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA,
Plaintiff,

v.

JAMES AREN DUCKETT
Defendant.

CASE NO. 1987-CF-1347
EMERGENCY CAPITAL CASE,
DEATH WARRANT SIGNED,
EXECUTION STAYED

NOTICE OF APPEAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Defendant, **JAMES AREN DUCKETT**, by and through undersigned counsel, takes and enters his appeal to the Supreme Court of Florida for review of the *Order On Defense Discovery Requests* concluding Mr. Duckett's Rule 3.853 litigation, entered by the Circuit Court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, in and for Lake County, Florida, on April 1, 2026, and any and all other rulings, or acts adverse to Mr. Duckett in support of said judgment.

The nature of the orders and judicial acts appealed include the denial of Mr. Duckett's Motion Requesting Testing Protocol Data, and Results of DNA Analysis; Motion for Analysis of DNA Results per the Florida Supreme Court's Order Granting Stay; and Demands for Additional Public Records to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Office of the Attorney General, and Office of the State Attorney, Fifth Judicial Circuit. Jurisdiction of this appeal is properly in the Supreme Court of Florida, and this appeal is timely.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Mary E. Wells
MARY ELIZABETH WELLS
Law Office of M.E. Wells
Florida Bar No. 0866067
mewells27@comcast.net

BRITTNEY LACY

Assistant CCRC-South
Florida Bar No. 116001
lacyb@ccsr.state.fl.us

COURTNEY M. HAMMER
Staff Attorney
Florida Bar No. 1011328
hammerC@ccsr.state.fl.us

Capital Collateral Regional Counsel-South
110 SE 6th Street, Suite 701
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
Tel. (954) 713-1284
COUNSEL FOR DUCKETT

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true copy of the foregoing has been furnished by electronic service using the State of Florida E-Filing Portal, to the following this 2nd day of April, 2026.

/s/ Courtney M. Hammer
COURTNEY M. HAMMER
Staff Attorney

Copies furnished to:

Hon. Daniel B. Merritt, Jr.
Chief Judge, Fifth Judicial Circuit
jweeks@circuit5.org

Hon. Brian Welke
Circuit Court Judge, Fifth Judicial Circuit
sturner@circuit5.org
aroberts@circuit5.org
dhendrick@circuit5.org

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Charmaine M. Millsaps, Special Counsel, AAG
charmaine.millsaps@myfloridalegal.com
capapp@myfloridalegal.com
paula.montlary@myfloridalegal.com
nanette.pelehach@myfloridalegal.com
elizabeth.bueter@myfloridalegal.com
jennifer.roberson@myfloridalegal.com

Naomi Nichols, Senior AAG
naomi.nichols@myfloridalegal.com

Nichole Rochelle Smith, Senior AAG
nicole.smith@myfloridalegal.com

Marilyn Muir, Associate Deputy Attorney General
Marilyn.muir@myfloridalegal.com

Scott A. Browne, Chief Assistant Attorney General
scott.browne@myfloridalegal.com

Stephen D. Ake, Attorney Manager II
stephen.ake@myfloridalegal.com

OFFICE OF THE STATE ATTORNEY, FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Bill Gladson, State Attorney

wgladson@sao5.org

Kenneth Nunnelley, ASA
knunnelley@sao5.org

Richard Buxman, ASA
rbuxman@sao5.org

Thomas Wieczorek, ASA
twieczorek@sao5.org

FLORIDA SUPREME COURT CLERK

warrant@flcourts.org
canovak@flcourts.gov