

Third District Court of Appeal

State of Florida

Opinion filed September 2, 2026.
Not final until disposition of timely filed motion for rehearing.

No. 3D26-0806
Lower Tribunal No. 21-9053-CA-01

Walter L. Wright,
Appellant,

vs.

**JPay LLC and Ricky D. Dixon, Secretary of
the Florida Department of Corrections,**
Appellees.

An Appeal from the Circuit Court for Miami-Dade County, Beatrice Butchko Sanchez, Judge.

Walter L. Wright, in proper person.

James Uthmeier, Attorney General, and Geoffrey Seifert, Assistant Attorney General (Tallahassee), for appellee Ricky D. Dixon, Secretary of the Florida Department of Corrections.

Colodny Fass, and Matthew Coleman Scarfone, for appellee JPay LLC.

Before LINDSEY, LOBREE and GOODEN, JJ.

ON ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

PER CURIAM.

In 2022, Appellant Walter L. Wright brought a civil action against Florida Department of Corrections and JPAY, LLC. The trial court referred the parties to binding arbitration and dismissed Wright's complaint with prejudice as to Florida Department of Corrections. Thereafter, Wright filed four subsequent appeals and petitions pro se.¹ Each was unsuccessful.

On July 21, 2026, Wright was ordered to show cause as to why he should not be prohibited from submitting any further pro se filings with this Court.² This Court warned him that "[a]bsent a showing of good cause, the Clerk of the Third District Court of Appeal will be directed to refuse any filing unless it has been reviewed and signed by an attorney who is a duly licensed member of The Florida Bar in good standing." Upon careful review of Wright's response, we conclude that he has failed to show good cause as to

¹ See Case No. 3D2023-1072, Case No. 3D2025-1602, Case No. 3D2025-2334, Case No. 3D2026-0806.

² In Case No. 3D2016-2478, we previously barred Wright from filing "any further pro se appeals, pleadings, motions, or petitions relating to his convictions, judgments, and sentences," and directed the Clerk of this Court to refuse any such filings unless signed by a member of the Florida Bar.

why he should not be prohibited from continuing to represent himself in this appeal.

Exercising this Court's inherent authority to determine whether a pro se litigant is abusing the judicial process, we now prohibit Wright from filing any further pro se motions, pleadings, petitions, notices, or any filings with this Court, and require that any such filings be made by an attorney licensed to practice law in Florida. See Jimenez v. State, 196 So. 3d 499, 501 (Fla. 3d DCA 2016); see also Brown v. Miami-Dade Cnty., 319 So. 3d 81, 84 (Fla. 3d DCA 2021) (affirming the county court's determination of an appellant's vexatious litigant status where the county's motion properly set forth "'five or more civil actions' which had been 'commenced, prosecuted or maintained pro se' by [the appellant] 'over the immediately preceding 5-year period[.]'" (quoting § 68.093(2)(d)1., Fla. Stat. (2019))); Hasanati v. State, 117 So. 3d 1157, 1158 n.1 (Fla. 3d DCA 2013) (finding that the appellant "abused the judicial process through his repeated and meritless pro se appeals and petitions" when he filed "[i]n less than three years . . . a total of seventeen separate pro se appeals or petitions," warranting a ban on further pro se filings).

We direct the Clerk of the Third District Court of Appeal to refuse to accept any such papers unless they have been reviewed and signed by an attorney who is a duly licensed member of The Florida Bar in good standing.

This order shall take effect immediately. No motions for rehearing shall be entertained.

So ordered.