

LOUISIANA COURT OF APPEAL, FIRST CIRCUIT

Corey Michelli v. Kathy Sullivan

Michelli · No. 2026 CW 0646 · Decided May 28, 2026

SUMMARY

The Louisiana Court of Appeal, First Circuit, denied a stay and granted supervisory relief in consolidated protection-order proceedings involving Kathy Sullivan and Donald Sullivan. The court held that the March 26, 2026 and April 1, 2026 orders of protection were appealable and remanded with instructions for the trial court to grant appeals to the defendants. The court also reversed any trial-court stay of the protection orders and denied the relators’ stay requests.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Louisiana Court of Appeal, First Circuit
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Per curiam; Theriot, J.; Balfour, J.; Haggerty, J., serving pro tempore
JURISDICTION	Louisiana Court of Appeal, First Circuit
DECIDED	May 28, 2026
DOCKET	2026 CW 0646
DISPOSITION	writ_granted
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Relators sought supervisory writs from orders of protection entered by the Twenty-First Judicial District Court for Tangipahoa Parish. The court of appeal denied the requests to stay the protective orders, granted the writ for the limited purpose of remanding for the trial court to grant defendants appeals, and reversed any trial-court stay of the protective-order provisions.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unknown
PARTIES	Donald Sullivan, Kathy Sullivan

TOPICS

- writ of certiorari
- appellate procedure
- domestic violence
- family law procedure
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- appellate procedure
- family law
- protective orders

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the orders of protection entered on March 26, 2026, and April 1, 2026, were appealable.
2. Whether the trial court could stay provisions of the orders of protection during the pendency of an appeal.
3. Whether the defendants' pleadings notifying the trial court of their intent to seek supervisory writs could support an order granting appeals.

HOLDINGS

1. The orders of protection signed on March 26, 2026, and April 1, 2026, were appealable.
2. The matter was remanded for the trial court to grant appeals to Donald Sullivan and Kathy Sullivan pursuant to the pleadings notifying the trial court of their intention to seek supervisory writs.
3. Any trial-court order staying provisions of the orders of protection was reversed, and the relators' requests for stays filed in the court of appeal were denied.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The Orders of Protection Signed on March 26, 2026 and April 1, 2026, respectively, are appealable.” (at 1)

“Therefore, the writ is granted for the limited purpose of remanding this matter to the trial court with instructions to grant appeals to defendants, Donald Sullivan and Kathy Sullivan, pursuant to the pleading that notified the trial court of defendants’ intention to seek supervisory writs.” (at 1)

“LSA-R.S. 46:2136(F) (1) affords the trial court no such discretion to suspend the protective order during the pendency of an appeal.” (at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The trial court issued orders of protection against or involving Donald Sullivan and Kathy Sullivan on March 26, 2026, and April 1, 2026. The defendants sought appellate review and requested stays of the protective-order provisions during review. The appellate court addressed the appealability of the orders and the propriety of any stay.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The Twenty-First Judicial District Court, Tangipahoa Parish, entered orders of protection on March 26, 2026, and April 1, 2026, in two consolidated proceedings. Donald Sullivan and Kathy Sullivan sought supervisory writs, asserting that the orders were appealable and requesting stays. The Louisiana Court of Appeal, First Circuit, held that the orders were appealable, remanded with instructions to grant appeals based on the pleadings notifying the trial court of that intent, and denied the stay requests.

DISPOSITION

writ_granted

REMAND INSTRUCTIONS

Remand to the trial court for the limited purpose of granting appeals to Donald Sullivan and Kathy Sullivan pursuant to the pleadings notifying the trial court of their intention to seek supervisory writs. Include a copy of the appellate court's order in the appellate record. Reverse any trial-court stay of provisions of the orders of protection. Deny the relators' stay requests filed in the court of appeal.

CASES CITED

- Pellerano v. Pellerano, 2017-0302 (La. App. 1st Cir. 4/12/19), 275 So. 3d 947, 949
- Acosta v. Pellerano, 2019-00756 (La. 9/17/19), 279 So. 3d 379
- In re Howard, 541 So. 2d 195, 197 (La. 1989) (per curiam)
- Barber v. Barber, 2015-1021 (La. App. 1st Cir. 4/15/16), 2016 WL 1535195, *3

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