

COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH DISTRICT OF TEXAS AT BEAUMONT

Woodforest National Bank v. Relianse Group, LLC, Haresh Surti,
and Anthony Iannarelli

No. 09-26-00017-CV · No. No. 09-26-00017-CV · Decided April 30, 2026

SUMMARY

The Ninth District Court of Appeals dismissed Woodforest National Bank’s appeal for want of prosecution. The court found that the appellant failed to pay the appellate filing fee, failed to pay or arrange payment for preparation of the clerk’s record, and did not respond to notices regarding those deficiencies.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Court of Appeals for the Ninth District of Texas at Beaumont
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Golemon, C.J.; Wright, J.; Chambers, J.
JURISDICTION	Court of Appeals for the Ninth District of Texas at Beaumont
DECIDED	April 30, 2026
DOCKET	No. 09-26-00017-CV
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Appellant appealed from a final judgment but failed to pay the appellate filing fee and failed to pay or arrange payment for preparation of the clerk's record.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	published
PARTIES	Woodforest National Bank v. Relianse Group, LLC, Haresh Surti, Anthony Iannarelli

TOPICS

- appellate procedure
- costs
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- appellate procedure
- civil procedure
- commercial litigation

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the appeal should be dismissed when the appellant failed to pay the appellate filing fee.

2. Whether the appeal should be dismissed for want of prosecution when the appellant failed to pay or arrange payment for preparation of the clerk's record and failed to respond to the court's warnings.

HOLDINGS

1. An appeal may be dismissed when the appellant fails to pay the appellate filing fee after receiving notice and an opportunity to cure the failure.
2. An appeal may be dismissed for want of prosecution when the appellant fails to pay or arrange payment for preparation of the clerk's record, fails to establish indigence, and does not respond to the court's notice and warning.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Appellant has not paid the filing fee for the appeal, nor has Appellant explained why it has not paid the fee for the clerk’s record; therefore, we dismiss the appeal for want of prosecution.” (at 2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The appeal was from a final judgment signed on October 16, 2025. After Woodforest filed its notice of appeal, it failed to pay the appellate filing fee despite an invoice and certified bill of costs. It also failed to pay or arrange payment for preparation of the clerk's record, failed to establish indigent status, and did not respond to the court's warnings.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Woodforest National Bank filed a notice of appeal from a final judgment signed by the 457th District Court of Montgomery County on October 16, 2025. The appellate court warned Woodforest that the appeal would be dismissed if it failed to pay the appellate filing fee and warned that the appeal would be dismissed for want of prosecution if it failed to make arrangements for the clerk's record. Woodforest did not pay the fees, establish indigence, explain its failure, or respond to the court's warnings, so the court dismissed the appeal.

DISPOSITION

dismissed