

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

Bieganski v. Shinn

Bieganski · No. CV-21-01684-PHX-DWL · Decided January 30, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the District of Arizona denied Bradley Bieganski’s motion to enforce the Ninth Circuit’s mandate by issuing an unconditional writ of habeas corpus and vacating his convictions and sentences. The court stayed enforcement of the mandate pending the United States Supreme Court’s resolution of the respondents’ petition for certiorari, preserving the parties’ existing release conditions and status quo.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of Arizona
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Dominic W. Lanza
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the District of Arizona
DECIDED	January 30, 2026
DOCKET	CV-21-01684-PHX-DWL
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Petitioner moved to enforce the Ninth Circuit's mandate by seeking an unconditional writ of habeas corpus, prohibition of retrial, vacatur of his convictions and sentences, and termination of release conditions. Respondents opposed and alternatively sought a stay of enforcement pending resolution of their petition for certiorari.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court exercised its inherent docket-management authority to determine whether a stay of enforcement of the mandate was warranted, weighing the possible damage from a stay, hardship or inequity from proceeding, and the orderly course of justice.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished district court order; persuasive value only.
PARTIES	Bradley Bieganski v. David Shinn, et al.

TOPICS

- federal habeas corpus
- post-conviction relief
- writ of certiorari
- appellate procedure
- remedies

PRACTICE AREAS

federal habeas corpus

post-conviction relief

appellate procedure

remedies

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the district court should enforce the Ninth Circuit's mandate by issuing an unconditional writ of habeas corpus and vacating Petitioner's convictions, sentences, and agreed release conditions.
2. Whether the district court could stay enforcement of the Ninth Circuit's mandate pending resolution of Respondents' petition for certiorari.
3. Whether the parties' agreement that the release conditions would remain in place pending further judicial review supported preserving the status quo through a stay.

HOLDINGS

1. A district court may stay enforcement of an appellate mandate pending resolution of a petition for certiorari when the mandate does not specifically foreclose that approach, pursuant to the court's inherent docket-management authority.
2. Enforcement of the mandate should be stayed pending resolution of Respondents' petition for certiorari.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Enforcement of the mandate is stayed pending the resolution of Respondents’ petition for certiorari.” (at 4)

“The district court possesses inherent authority to stay federal proceedings pursuant to its docket management powers.” (at 2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The Ninth Circuit reversed the district court's denial of habeas relief and remanded with instructions to issue the writ. Before the mandate issued, the parties agreed to Petitioner's release subject to conditions that would remain in effect pending further judicial review. After the mandate issued, Respondents filed a certiorari petition, and Petitioner sought an unconditional writ and termination of the agreed release conditions while Supreme Court review remained pending.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

This federal habeas action under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 was initially denied by the district court in July 2023. The Ninth Circuit reversed on August 12, 2025, and remanded with instructions to issue the writ; its mandate issued on October 3, 2025. Before issuance of the mandate, the parties jointly sought and obtained release subject to agreed conditions pending further judicial review. Respondents later filed a petition for certiorari, and Petitioner moved to enforce the mandate. The district court denied that motion and stayed enforcement of the mandate pending resolution of the certiorari petition.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Bieganski v. Shinn, 149 F.4th 1055 (9th Cir. 2025)
- Chinaryan v. City of Los Angeles, 122 F.4th 823, 825 (9th Cir. 2024)

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