

COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SEVENTH DISTRICT OF TEXAS AT
AMARILLO

In re Rickye Bernard Henderson, Sr.

No. 07-26-00084-CV · No. No. 07-26-00084-CV · Decided February 10, 2026

SUMMARY

The Seventh Court of Appeals of Texas dismissed Rickye Bernard Henderson, Sr.'s petition for a writ of mandamus for want of jurisdiction. The court concluded that it lacked authority to issue mandamus against the judge of the 353rd District Court of Travis County because Travis County is outside the Seventh Court of Appeals District, and Henderson did not show that the writ was necessary to enforce the court's jurisdiction.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Court of Appeals for the Seventh District of Texas at Amarillo
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Per Curiam; Parker, C.J.; Doss, J.; Yarbrough, J.
JURISDICTION	Court of Appeals for the Seventh District of Texas at Amarillo
DECIDED	February 10, 2026
DOCKET	No. 07-26-00084-CV
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Original proceeding in which the relator sought a writ of mandamus directing the judge of the 353rd District Court of Travis County to vacate orders and judgments.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	published
PARTIES	Rickye Bernard Henderson, Sr., Relator v. The State of Texas

TOPICS

- appellate jurisdiction
- appellate procedure
- civil procedure
- remedies

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- appellate procedure
- mandamus

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the Seventh Court of Appeals had authority to issue mandamus against the judge of the 353rd District Court of Travis County.
2. Whether Henderson demonstrated that issuance of mandamus was necessary to enforce the Seventh Court of Appeals' jurisdiction.

HOLDINGS

1. The Seventh Court of Appeals lacked authority to issue mandamus against the judge of the 353rd District Court because Travis County is outside the court's geographic district, unless the writ was necessary to enforce the court's jurisdiction.
2. Henderson did not demonstrate that the Seventh Court of Appeals' jurisdiction was implicated; therefore, the court could not issue the requested writ and dismissed the petition for want of jurisdiction.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“As we are without authority to issue a mandamus against the respondent, we dismiss the petition for want of jurisdiction.” (1)

“Henderson has not demonstrated that our jurisdiction is implicated here.” (1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Henderson sought mandamus relief concerning orders and judgments issued by the judge of the 353rd District Court of Travis County. Travis County is located within the Third Court of Appeals District, not the Seventh Court of Appeals District.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Henderson filed documents in the Seventh Court of Appeals seeking mandamus relief against the judge of the 353rd District Court of Travis County. The court dismissed the petition for want of jurisdiction because Travis County is outside the geographic district of the Seventh Court of Appeals and Henderson did not show that a writ was necessary to enforce that court's jurisdiction.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

OPINION

PER CURIAM.

In The Court of Appeals Seventh District of Texas at Amarillo No. 07-26-00084-CV IN RE RICKYE BERNARD HENDERSON, SR., RELATOR ORIGINAL PROCEEDING February 10, 2026 MEMORANDUM OPINION Before PARKER, C.J., and DOSS and YARBROUGH, JJ. Rickye Bernard Henderson, Sr., Relator, filed documents with this Court seeking a writ of

mandamus directing the judge of the 353rd District Court of Travis County to vacate certain orders and judgments issued against him.

As we are without authority to issue a mandamus against the respondent, we dismiss the petition for want of jurisdiction. A court of appeals may issue writs of mandamus against a judge of a district or county court in its geographic district and may issue writs necessary to enforce its jurisdiction. TEX. GOV'T. CODE § 22.221(a), (b).

Here, Henderson has directed his mandamus petition against a judge presiding over a district court which is not located within the geographic district for the Seventh Court of Appeals. See TEX. GOV'T. CODE § 22.201 (d) (designating Travis County within the Third Court of Appeals District), (h) (identifying the counties composing the Seventh Court of Appeals District).

Accordingly, we are without authority to issue a writ of mandamus against a judge of the 353rd District Court unless the writ is necessary to enforce our jurisdiction. See TEX. GOV'T. CODE § 22.221(a). Henderson has not demonstrated that our jurisdiction is implicated here.

Therefore, we dismiss Henderson's petition for writ of mandamus for want of jurisdiction. Per Curiam 2