

SIXTH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL OF FLORIDA

Terrelle A. Tullis v. State of Florida

Tullis v. State · No. 6D2025-2211 · Decided May 1, 2026

SUMMARY

The Sixth District Court of Appeal of Florida affirmed the circuit court’s decision in an appeal under Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.141(b)(2). The court relied on Ratliff v. State to conclude that a sentence of life imprisonment requires imprisonment for the defendant’s entire life.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Sixth District Court of Appeal of Florida
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Per Curiam; Traver, C.J.; Mize, J.; Brownlee, J.
JURISDICTION	Sixth District Court of Appeal of Florida
DECIDED	May 1, 2026
DOCKET	6D2025-2211
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Appeal from the Circuit Court for Orange County pursuant to Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.141(b)(2).
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published opinion
PARTIES	Terrelle A. Tullis v. State of Florida

TOPICS

- appellate procedure
- sentencing
- post-conviction relief
- statutory interpretation

PRACTICE AREAS

- appellate procedure
- criminal procedure
- post-conviction relief
- sentencing

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether the circuit court's ruling should be affirmed in an appeal under Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.141(b)(2), in light of the governing principle that a sentence of life imprisonment means imprisonment for the remainder of the defendant's life.

HOLDINGS

1. The court affirmed the circuit court's ruling.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“[T]he Legislature, by prescribing a sentence of life imprisonment, intends that the defendant remain in prison for the rest of his life. The term ‘life’ is sufficiently definite so that it can be understood and applied.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The opinion provides no substantive factual background beyond identifying the underlying criminal case and the appeal from the Orange County circuit court.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Tullis appealed an order of the Circuit Court for Orange County. The Sixth District Court of Appeal affirmed in a per curiam decision.

DISPOSITION

affirmed

CASES CITED

- Ratliff v. State, 914 So. 2d 938, 940 (Fla. 2005)

OPINION

Terrelle A. Tullis v. State of Florida

PER CURIAM.

SIXTH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL

STATE OF FLORIDA

_____ Case No. 6D2025-2211 Lower Tribunal No. 2010-CF-005852-A-O _____

TERRELLE A. TULLIS,

Appellant, v.

STATE OF FLORIDA,

Appellee. _____ Appeal pursuant to Fla. R. App. P. 9.141(b)(2) from the Circuit Court for Orange County. Barbara J. Leach, Judge. May 1, 2026 PER CURIAM. AFFIRMED. See Ratliff v. State, 914 So. 2d 938, 940 (Fla. 2005) (“[T]he Legislature, by prescribing a sentence of life imprisonment, intends that the defendant remain in prison for the rest of his life. The term ‘life’ is sufficiently definite so that it can be understood and applied.”). TRAVER, C.J., and MIZE and BROWNLEE, JJ., concur. Terrelle A. Tullis, Blountstown, pro se. James Uthmeier, Attorney General, Tallahassee, and Zachary L. Wiseman, Assistant Attorney General, Daytona Beach, for Appellee.

NOT FINAL UNTIL TIME EXPIRES TO FILE MOTION FOR REHEARING
AND DISPOSITION THEREOF IF TIMELY FILED

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