

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF  
TENNESSEE**

**Maurice Blocker v. Brandon Watwood, Warden**

Blocker · No. 2:22-cv-01270-JTF-atc · Decided December 17, 2025

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**SUMMARY**

The United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee denied Maurice Blocker's motion to proceed with his habeas case because a pending notice of appeal divested the district court of jurisdiction over the issues raised in the petition. The court granted his request for status, noted that relevant filings had already been served, and directed the Clerk to mail him a copy of the docket sheet.

**OPINION**

Blocker

PER CURIAM.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE  
WESTERN DIVISION

MAURICE BLOCKER, )

) Petitioner, ) ) No. 2:22-cv-01270-JTF-atc v. ) ) BRANDON WATWOOD, Warden, ) )  
Respondent. )

ORDER DENYING PETITIONER'S MOTION TO PROCEED, GRANTING  
PETITIONER'S MOTION FOR STATUS, AND DIRECTING CLERK TO MAIL  
PETITIONER A COPY OF THE DOCKET SHEET

Before the Court is Motion for Status and Motion to Proceed filed on November 10, 2025, by Petitioner Maurice Blocker. (ECF No. 41.) Petitioner seeks a copy of the docket sheet and to proceed his habeas case by ordering the State to file an answer to the Original Petition with a complete copy of the state proceeding. (Id. at PageID 2189.) With regard to Petitioner's request to proceed the case, Petitioner filed a notice of appeal on November 5, 2025. (ECF No. 39.) "As a general rule the filing of a notice of appeal divests the district court of jurisdiction and transfers jurisdiction to the court of appeals." *City of Cookeville, Tenn. v. Upper Cumberland Elec. Membership Corp.*, 484 F.3d 380, 394 (6th Cir. 2007). The district court retains jurisdiction to enforce a judgment, to proceed with matters that will aid the appellate process, and to adjudicate matters unrelated to the issues on appeal. See *Williamson v. Recovery Ltd. P'ship*, 731 F.3d 608, 626 (6th Cir. 2013). Therefore, the district court is without jurisdiction to proceed on the issues raised in the original petition while the appeal is pending. To the extent Petitioner seeks an answer to the original petition and a copy of the state court proceedings, that information has been filed in

the case and served on Petitioner. (See ECF Nos. 12, 17 & 32.) For these reasons, the motion to proceed is DENIED. To the extent Petitioner seeks a copy of the docket sheet, Petitioner's motion for status is GRANTED. The Clerk mailed Petitioner a copy of the docket sheet on November 12, 2025. The status of the case is unchanged as there have been no filings since that time. The Clerk is DIRECTED to mail Petitioner a copy of the docket sheet with this Order. IT IS SO ORDERED, this the 17th day of December, 2025. s/John T. Fowlkes, Jr. JOHN T. FOWLKES, JR.  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE