

LOUISIANA COURT OF APPEAL, FIRST CIRCUIT

State of Louisiana v. American Electronic Monitoring, LLC

No. 2026 KW 0012 (La. Ct. App. 2026) · No. 2026 KW 0012 · Decided January 9, 2026

SUMMARY

The Louisiana Court of Appeal, First Circuit denied the State of Louisiana's application for supervisory writs in a dispute involving the exclusion of expert testimony concerning electronic monitoring systems. In a dissent, Judge Edwards would have granted the writ and reversed the district court, concluding that the proposed expert's experience and methodology satisfied Louisiana Code of Evidence article 702 and Daubert.

CASE DETAILS

|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COURT                 | Louisiana Court of Appeal, First Circuit                                                                                                                                                               |
| WRITING FOR THE COURT | Per curiam; Miller, J.; Edwards, J.; Fields, J.                                                                                                                                                        |
| JURISDICTION          | Louisiana Court of Appeal, First Circuit                                                                                                                                                               |
| DECIDED               | January 9, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| DOCKET                | 2026 KW 0012                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| DISPOSITION           | writ_denied                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| PROCEDURAL POSTURE    | The State of Louisiana applied for a supervisory writ challenging the Twentieth Judicial District Court's ruling denying expert testimony by Mr. Dennis in the field of electronic monitoring systems. |
| STANDARD OF REVIEW    | The majority did not state a standard of review. The dissent characterized the alleged error as an abuse of discretion.                                                                                |
| PRECEDENTIAL VALUE    | unknown                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| PARTIES               | State of Louisiana v. American Electronic Monitoring, LLC                                                                                                                                              |

TOPICS

- writ of certiorari
- appellate procedure
- expert testimony
- daubert standard
- evidence

PRACTICE AREAS

- Appellate procedure
- Evidence

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court should grant the State's supervisory writ and reverse the district court's denial of expert testimony by Mr. Dennis concerning electronic monitoring systems.

## HOLDINGS

1. The Louisiana Court of Appeal, First Circuit, denied the State's supervisory writ.

## KEY QUOTATIONS

*“Edwards, J., dissents and would grant the writ and reverse the district court’s ruling denying expert testimony by Mr. Dennis in the field of electronic monitoring systems.”*

## FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The proposed expert, Mr. Dennis, had worked extensively with electronic ankle monitoring for eleven years and was director of a Louisiana program supervising and monitoring offenders released by court order or on bond. His company monitored approximately 400 offenders at a time and used electronic monitoring to track compliance with court orders and bond conditions. According to the dissent, he testified about his company's standards and methodology based on his experience and knowledge.

## PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The matter arose from proceedings in the Twentieth Judicial District Court for the Parish of West Feliciana, case number 22-WFLN-238. The State sought supervisory review of the district court's ruling denying the admission of Mr. Dennis's expert testimony. The Louisiana Court of Appeal, First Circuit, denied the writ; Judge Edwards dissented and would have granted the writ and reversed.

## DISPOSITION

writ\_denied

## CASES CITED

- Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc., 509 U.S. 579, 113 S. Ct. 2786, 125 L. Ed. 2d 469 (1993)