

SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA

No. 2026-CD-00594

GARY CROCKETT

VS.

**STATE OF LOUISIANA; JEFF LANDRY, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY
AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, ET AL.**

c/w

**CHELSEY RICHARD NAPOLEON, IN HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS
CLERK OF COURT FOR ORLEANS PARISH**

VS.

**CITY OF NEW ORLEANS; JEAN PAUL “J.P.” MORRELL IN HIS
CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF THE NEW ORLEANS CITY COUNCIL,
THE NEW ORLEANS CITY COUNCIL, HELENA MORENO IN HER
CAPACITY AS THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS AND
CALVIN JOHNSON, IN HIS CAPACITY AS CITY APPOINTED INTERIM
CLERK OF COURT FOR ORLEANS PARISH**

On Supervisory Writ to the 19th Judicial District Court, Parish of East
Baton Rouge

ORDER

Considering the urgent need to provide a definitive resolution to prevent further confusion, and pursuant to this court’s plenary supervisory jurisdiction over all other courts under La. Const. Art. V, §5(A),

IT IS ORDERED that this Court immediately assumes jurisdiction over the proceedings in the above captioned cases. The district courts are ordered to immediately transfer the records of these cases to this Court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the parties shall brief the following questions of law: “Does Act 15 of the 2026 Regular Session (“Act 15”), insofar as it abolishes the office of clerk of court for the Criminal District Court for the Parish of Orleans, violate any provisions of the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of Louisiana?” and “Does the enactment of Act 15 create a vacancy in

any office requiring the May 11, 2026 actions by the City of New Orleans?”

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the brief of the State of Louisiana, as applicant, Chelsey Napoleon, and any party in support of Act 15 or against the City’s actions of May 11, 2026, shall be due on May 18, 2026. The brief of Gary Crockett, as respondent, Calvin Johnson, the City of New Orleans defendants, and any other party opposing Act 15 or in favor of the City’s actions shall be due on May 22, 2026.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the trial court in Docket C-778244 shall maintain the currently scheduled hearing for Monday May 18, 2026, which shall not be continued, and immediately thereafter, without ruling, transfer the record of that proceeding to this Court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that except as expressly provided under this Order any and all litigation in any state court in Louisiana related to the application, interpretation, or constitutionality of Act 15 is hereby stayed pending the final disposition of this matter by this Court.

Based on the presumption of constitutionality afforded to all legislative acts, Act 15 should be applied unless and until this Court determines that it is unconstitutional, therefore, IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a Temporary Restraining Order is hereby issued preventing Calvin Johnson from executing any duties pursuant to his appointment by the New Orleans City Council. Furthermore, no official shall interfere with the legal authority of plaintiff, Chelsey Napoleon, to act pursuant to Act 15 pending the final disposition of this matter by this Court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Court will consider any motions for intervention pursuant to La. C.C.P. art. 1091 if filed at least 48 hours prior to the deadline for the filing of briefs for the side that the movant seeks to support.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, this 14th day of May 2026.

FOR THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Z. Warner", is written over a horizontal line.

CHIEF JUSTICE
SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA