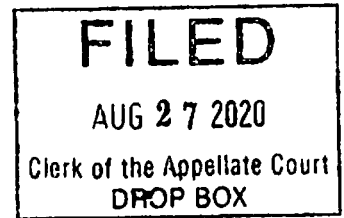


IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE

AT NASHVILLE



STATE OF TENNESSEE,)

Movant,)

v.)

CHRISTA GAIL PIKE,)

Defendant.)

KNOX COUNTY

No. 03S01-9712-CR-00147

Trial Court No. 58183A

M2020-01156-SC-DPE-DD

MOTION TO SET EXECUTION DATE

As Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 12.4(A) requires the State to do when a death-row prisoner has completed the standard three-tier appeals process, the State of Tennessee moves this Court to set an execution date for Christa Pike. In support of this motion, the State relies on the following:

1. Pike was convicted for the brutal 1995 murder of Colleen Slemmer. Following the jury's verdict, the trial court sentenced Pike to death. Her conviction and sentence were affirmed by this Court on direct appeal. *State v Pike*, 978 S.W.2d 904 (Tenn. 1998). The United States Supreme Court denied certiorari. *Pike v Tennessee*, 526 U.S. 1147 (1999).

2. Pike filed a petition for post-conviction relief in the trial court, which was denied following an evidentiary hearing. The Court of

Criminal Appeals affirmed the judgment, and this Court denied discretionary review. *Pike v State*, No. E2009-00016-CCA-R3-PD, 2011 WL 1544207 (Tenn. Crim. App. Apr. 25, 2011), *perm. app. denied* (Tenn. Nov. 15, 2011). The United States Supreme Court denied review. *Pike v Tennessee*, 568 U.S. 827 (2012).

3. Pike then filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee. The court granted the warden's motion for summary judgment, dismissed the petition, and denied a certificate of appealability. The Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals granted Pike a certificate of appealability but ultimately rejected her claims and affirmed the denial of habeas relief. *Pike v Gross*, 936 F.3d 372 (6th Cir. 2019). The United States Supreme Court denied a petition for writ of certiorari on June 8, 2020. *Pike v Gross*, No. 19-1054, 2020 WL 3038298 (2020). Pike did not file a petition for rehearing, and the time for seeking a rehearing has passed.

4. Pike has thus completed the standard three-tier appeals process, making the setting of an execution date appropriate. See Rule 12.4(A). There are no current judicial or executive orders staying Pike's execution or granting a reprieve.

Because Pike has completed the standard three-tier appeals process and as provided in Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 12.4(A), this Court should set an execution date in accordance with the judgment of the Criminal Court of Knox County, Tennessee.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and exact copy of the foregoing Motion was forwarded by United States mail, first-class postage prepaid, on the 27th day of August 2020, and was e-mailed to the following:

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The undersigned attorney of record prefers to be notified of any orders or opinions of the Court by e-mail at Amy.Tarkington@ag.tn.gov.

Amy L. Tarkington by
AMY L. TARKINGTON
Associate Solicitor General
John H. Ashoe