



SENT THE DAY THE FILING WAS REJECTED · NO. 1-26-0055

WRITTEN ANSWER REQUESTED BY 5:00 P.M.
FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2026

The Clerk Has Directed Me to You, and the Rule 9(f) Window Closes August 11

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MATTER

People v. Allababidi, No. 1-26-0055 (Ill. App. Ct., 1st Dist.) — Cook County No. 23 CR 0241301

Appointment entered July 31, 2026 on no party's motion · emergency motion submitted August 2 and rejected August 4 · Rule 9(f)(1) window closes Tuesday, August 11, 2026 · record due September 9, 2026

Counsel:

Mr. Hoff: on July 31, 2026 the First District appointed your Office to represent me in this appeal. No party asked for that. I did not, the People did not, and the order states no ground for it. I am writing on the fourth day because something has happened since that makes the appointment your Office's problem as well as mine, and because there is a deadline on it of Tuesday, August 11, 2026.

On August 2, 2026 I submitted an emergency motion in this appeal. **On August 4, 2026 the Clerk rejected it.** The rejection reason reads "Rejection by Clerk." The rejection comment reads, in full:

REJECTION COMMENT, ENVELOPE NO. 39310613, AUGUST 4, 2026

[*Contact your attorney at the State Appellate Defenders office.*]

So the position now taken at intake is that I may not file, and that the route is through your Office. **Your Office has filed nothing, because as far as I can tell no one there has been told it was appointed.** That is not a criticism; it is the situation. The result is that there is at present no person who can file anything in No. 1-26-0055: not me, because the Clerk will not take it, and not counsel, because counsel does not know.

WHAT THE ORDER ACTUALLY SAYS

I want to be precise about this, because it is the one fact that decides everything below. The order of July 31, 2026, entered by Presiding Justice James Fitzgerald Smith, provides in its entirety, after denying my motion:

ORDER, PEOPLE V. ALLABABIDI, NO. 1-26-0055 (ILL. APP. CT., 1ST DIST., JULY 31, 2026)

[*Defendant-Appellant Ehab Allababidi is given an extension of time to September 9, 2026 to properly file the record in this Court, and the Office of the State Appellate Defender is appointed to represent Defendant-Appellant Ehab Allababidi in this appeal.*]

There is no direction that I file nothing further. There is no restriction on my appearing or being heard. The order bars me from nothing, and it names me — not counsel — as the person given until September 9 to file the record. I mention this because if your Office has been told that an order bars me from filing, it has been told something the order does not say. **The order is Exhibit B**, and the rejection notice is Exhibit A, so that no one has to take my word for either.



THREE THINGS, ANY ONE OF WHICH ENDS THIS

I am not asking your Office to adopt my view of the appeal, and I am not asking anyone to sign a document they have not read. Any one of the following resolves it, and I will treat whichever you choose as a complete answer.

- 1 **File the motion.** The enclosed drafts are complete, cited, and in editable form. Rewrite them, cut them, or discard them — the strategy is yours. The objective is that something be filed before the Rule 9(f) window closes on Tuesday, August 11, 2026.
- 2 **Move to withdraw** under Illinois Supreme Court Rule 13(c)(2). If your Office does not intend to act in this appeal, the docket should say so, and I will not oppose the motion.
- 3 **Or simply write one sentence.** Confirm in writing that the Office does not object to my filing documents on my own behalf in No. 1-26-0055. **That is the option I am actually asking for.** It commits your Office to no position on any issue, requires no review of anything I have written, and takes a paragraph. It is also the only document that answers the Clerk, because the Clerk's stated objection is not to the motion's contents but to who submitted it.

THE DATES, SO THAT NOTHING TURNS ON MY JUDGMENT OF URGENCY

DATE	WHAT IT IS
Tuesday, August 11, 2026	Five court days from the notice of rejection. Illinois Supreme Court Rule 9(f)(1)(A) permits a motion to have the rejected document deemed filed as of August 2; Rule 9(f)(1)(B) says the court "shall grant" it. After that date the August 2 submission date is gone.
September 9, 2026	The date the order gives for the record. The record is prepared — the circuit docket has read "Common Law Record Prepared" since February 5, 2026 — and under Rule 608(a) only the circuit clerk may transmit it. That is what the rejected motion is about.
Today	Your Office has been counsel of record for four days.

A WRITTEN ANSWER, BY 5:00 P.M. FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2026

Any of the three. If your Office intends to do none of them, please say so by that time, so that I can tell the Court that when I file the Rule 9(f) motion rather than leave the Court to guess. I am filing that motion on or before Tuesday, August 11, 2026 in any event, because the deadline does not wait for either of us.

WHAT THIS LETTER IS NOT

- It is not a complaint about any attorney. Your Office was appointed four days ago on an appeal no one appears to have told it about, and has had no opportunity to do anything. **Nothing in this letter is a predicate for a disciplinary referral, and none is threatened or contemplated.**
- It is not an accusation against the Clerk of the First District or any deputy clerk. A ministerial officer applying an intake practice is not a wrongdoer. My disagreement is with the practice, and it belongs in a motion, where I am putting it.
- It is not a demand that your Office take any position on the merits of the appeal, on the record dispute, or on anything else. Rule of Professional Conduct 1.2(a) puts the means with the lawyer. The objective is mine and it is stated above.
- It is not a request that anyone act on my timetable rather than the Court's. The dates in the table are the Court's dates and the Supreme Court Rules', not mine.

I would rather be represented by an Office that knows it has this case than file alone against a clerk who has been told I am represented. One sentence from you resolves that, whichever way you decide to resolve it.



Respectfully and without waiver of any right or remedy,

/s/ Ehab Allababidi

EHAB ALLABABIDI | *Pro Se*

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