

STATE OF LOUISIANA
COURT OF APPEAL, SECOND CIRCUIT
430 Fannin Street
Shreveport, LA 71101
(318) 227-3700

No. 56,688-CW

JOHNNIE MAE THOMPSON

VERSUS

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCE
CENTER-SHREVEPORT,
UNIVERSITY HEALTH
SHREVEPORT, LLC d/b/a
OCHSNER LSU HEALTH SHREVEPORT,
AND LSU HEALTH SHREVEPORT
UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

FILED: 08/22/25

RECEIVED: BY HAND 08/22/25

On application of University Health Shreveport, LLC d/b/a Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport for SUPERVISORY WRIT in No. 638,699 on the docket of the First Judicial District, Parish of CADD0, Judge Michael A. Pitman.

PETTIETTE, ARMAND, DUNKELAN, LLP
Lawrence Wayne Pettiette, Jr.
Valerie Ann DeLatte

Counsel for:
University Health Shreveport,
LLC d/b/a Ochsner LSU Health
Shreveport

THE TOWNSLEY LAW FIRM, LLP
Jackson T. Brown

Counsel for:
Johnnie Mae Thompson

Ryan York

Counsel for:
Louisiana State University
Health Science
Center-Shreveport

Before STEPHENS, HUNTER, and ELLENDER, JJ.

WRIT GRANTED AND MADE PEREMPTORY.

The Applicant, University Health Shreveport, LLC d/b/a Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport (“University Health”) seeks supervisory review of the June 24, 2025, ruling denying its motion for leave to amend its answer. Amendment of pleadings should be liberally allowed, provided the movant is acting in good faith, the amendment is not sought as a delaying tactic, the opponent will not be unduly prejudiced, and trial of the issues will not be unduly delayed. *Hibernia Nat. Bank*

v. Antonini, 33,436 (La. App. 2 Cir. 8/23/00), 767 So. 2d 143. There has been no showing that University Health is acting in bad faith nor seeking to delay proceedings by requesting to amend its answer. Also, allowing University Health to amend its answer will not delay trial as no trial date has yet been set. Likewise, we are not convinced that Plaintiff would be unduly prejudiced by allowing the amendment as there is no pending scheduling order. On this record, we find that the trial court abused its discretion in denying applicant's motion for leave to amend its answer. Accordingly, the writ is granted, and the ruling of the trial court is reversed. University Health is granted leave to file its amended answer, and the case is remanded to the trial court for further proceedings.

Shreveport, Louisiana, this 1 day of October, 2025.

MS

DJE

MLH

HUNTER, J., would deny and let it stand.

FILED: October 1, 2025

Melby Melton

DEPUTY CLERK