

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

No. 57,274-KW

STATE OF LOUISIANA

VERSUS

LEO ELMER HILDEBRANT

FILED: 08/31/26

RECEIVED: BY HAND 08/31/26

On application of Leo Elmer Hildebrant for SUPERVISORY WRIT in No. 418,847 on the docket of the First Judicial District, Parish of CADDO, Judge Ramona L. Emanuel.

E. Ray Kethley, Jr.

Counsel for:

Leo Elmer Hildebrant

James Edward Stewart, Sr.
Shayla J. Johnson

Counsel for:

State of Louisiana

Before PITMAN, STEPHENS, and ELLENDER, JJ.

WRIT GRANTED; REMANDED.

The applicant, Leo Elmer Hildebrant, seeks expedited consideration of the trial court's August 17, 2026, ruling denying his motion for reduction of bail and maintaining his bail at \$500,000.00 for his misdemeanor charge of stalking, in violation of La. R.S. 14:40.2. The trial court abused its discretion in denying applicant's request for bond reduction. We find that on its face, the \$500,000.00 bond for a misdemeanor is excessive in violation of the Eighth Amendment of the United States Constitution and La. Const. art. I, §18. Pursuant to La. C. Cr. P. art. 316 and the federal and state constitutions, defendant's total bail obligation should not exceed \$100,000.00, with additional conditions of an ankle monitor, home confinement, and a protective order requiring no contact with the alleged victim. The matter is remanded to the trial court to set bail in accordance with this ruling. The trial court is further directed to consider whether additional conditions or restrictions are appropriate to safeguard the alleged victim, pursuant to La. C. Cr. P. arts. 313 and 320.

Shreveport, Louisiana, this 8 day of September, 2026.

DJE JP _____

MS STEPHENS, J., dissents. He would grant writ but set the maximum bail at \$10,000.00 and no contact with the alleged victim.

FILED: September 8, 2026

Molly Melton

DEPUTY CLERK