

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SEVENTH CIRCUIT

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United States Courthouse
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SANCTION ORDER

February 6, 2024

Before

DIANE S. SYKES, *Chief Judge*
DIANE P. WOOD, *Circuit Judge*
MICHAEL Y. SCUDDER, *Circuit Judge*

No. 24-1031	IN RE: SAMUEL SLEDGE, Petitioner
Petition for Writ of Mandamus	
District Court No: 1:22-cv-03935 District Judge Martha M. Pacold	

The following is before the court: **RESPONSE TO THE 1/29/2024 ORDER OF THE APPELLATE COURT FOR THE SEVENTH CIRCUIT**, filed on February 2, 2024, by the pro se petitioner.

On January 29, 2024, this court denied petitioner Samuel Sledge's second petition for a writ of mandamus, which the court had construed as a petition for rehearing, and ordered Sledge to show cause why he should not be sanctioned for continuing to file frivolous and repetitive papers. Sledge has filed a response to this court's show cause order, but the response does not offer any justification for his persistence and instead repeats his frivolous claims. Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED that Sledge is sanctioned \$500 for filing frivolous petitions for writs of mandamus. Within fourteen days of the date of this order, Sledge must tender a check payable to the clerk of this court for the full amount of the sanction.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the clerks of all federal courts in this circuit shall return unfiled any papers submitted either directly or indirectly by or on behalf of

Sledge unless and until he pays in full any sanctions that have been imposed against him and all outstanding filing fees. *See In re City of Chicago*, 500 F.3d 582, 585–86 (7th Cir. 2007); *Support Sys. Int’l, Inc. v. Mack*, 45 F.3d 185, 186 (7th Cir. 1995) (per curiam). In accordance with our decision in *Mack*, exceptions to this filing bar are made for criminal cases and for applications for writs of habeas corpus. *See Mack*, 45 F.3d at 186-87. This order will be lifted immediately once Sledge makes full payment. *See City of Chicago*, 500 F.3d at 585–86. If Sledge, despite his best efforts, is unable to pay in full all outstanding sanctions and filing fees, he is authorized to submit to this court a motion to modify or rescind this order no earlier than two years from the date of this order. *See id.*; *Mack*, 45 F.3d at 186. The court further warns Sledge that any attempt to circumvent this filing bar through filings by or on behalf of his son, Samuel L. Sledge, may result in further sanctions.