

UNPUBLISHED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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**No. 02-1447**

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LEROY M. THURSTON, JR.,

Plaintiff - Appellant,

versus

CATHY COLLINS, Manager, Central Virginia  
Newspaper,

Defendant - Appellee.

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**No. 02-1448**

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LEROY M. THURSTON, JR.,

Plaintiff - Appellant,

versus

CALVIN JACKSON,

Defendant - Appellee.

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**No. 02-1449**

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LEROY M. THURSTON, JR.,

Plaintiff - Appellant,

versus

THOMAS ROBERTS,

Defendant - Appellee.

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Appeals from the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia, at Charlottesville. Norman K. Moon, District Judge. (CA-02-14-3, CA-02-15-3, CA-02-16-3)

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Submitted: July 18, 2002

Decided: July 23, 2002

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Before WIDENER, LUTTIG, and GREGORY, Circuit Judges.

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Dismissed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

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Leroy M. Thurston, Jr., Appellant Pro Se.

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Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit. See Local Rule 36(c).

PER CURIAM:

Leroy M. Thurston, Jr. seeks to appeal the district court's orders dismissing his civil actions for lack of jurisdiction. We dismiss the appeals for lack of jurisdiction because Thurston's notices of appeal were not timely filed.

Parties are accorded thirty days after the entry of the district court's final judgment or order to note an appeal, see Fed. R. App. P. 4(a)(1), unless the district court extends the appeal period under Fed. R. App. P. 4(a)(5) or reopens the appeal period under Fed. R. App. P. 4(a)(6). This appeal period is "mandatory and jurisdictional." Browder v. Director, Dep't of Corrections, 434 U.S. 257, 264 (1978) (quoting United States v. Robinson, 361 U.S. 220, 229 (1960)).

The district court's orders were entered on the docket on February 11, 2002. Thurston's notices of appeal were filed on April 9, 2002. Because Thurston failed to file a timely notice of appeal or to obtain an extension or reopening of the appeal period, we dismiss the appeals. We dispense with oral argument because the facts and legal contentions are adequately presented in the materials before the court and argument would not aid the decisional process.

DISMISSED