

UNPUBLISHED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

No. 20-2265

In re: FRANCIS C. MBEWE,

Petitioner.

On Petition for Writ of Mandamus.

Submitted: August 31, 2021

Decided: September 17, 2021

Before AGEE and QUATTLEBAUM, Circuit Judges, and TRAXLER, Senior Circuit Judge.

Petition denied by unpublished per curiam opinion.

Francis C. Mbeve, Petitioner Pro Se.

Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.

PER CURIAM:

Francis C. Mbewe petitions for a writ of mandamus seeking an order directing the State of Maryland and its agents to grant him permission to retrieve documents from an NYPD vehicle, instruct the Montgomery County Circuit Court clerk to send him a court document, and intervene in his state postconviction proceedings. We conclude that we lack jurisdiction to grant Mbewe's requested relief.

Mandamus relief is a drastic remedy and should be used only in extraordinary circumstances. *Cheney v. U.S. Dist. Ct.*, 542 U.S. 367, 380 (2004); *In re Murphy-Brown, LLC*, 907 F.3d 788, 795 (4th Cir. 2018). Further, mandamus relief is available only when the petitioner has a clear right to the relief sought. *Murphy-Brown*, 907 F.3d at 795. This court does not have jurisdiction to grant mandamus relief against state courts or officials, *Gurley v. Superior Ct. of Mecklenburg Cnty.*, 411 F.2d 586, 587 (4th Cir. 1969) (per curiam), or to review final state court orders, *D.C. Ct. of Appeals v. Feldman*, 460 U.S. 462, 482 (1983).

Mbewe has not identified any respondent over which we may exercise jurisdiction, and our review reveals that we lack authority to grant the relief Mbewe seeks. *See* Fed. R. App. P. 21(a)(1), (b)(1); *see also Clark v. Cartledge*, 829 F.3d 303, 305 (4th Cir. 2016) (noting our obligation to address jurisdiction sua sponte). Accordingly, we deny Mbewe's petition for writ of mandamus. We grant leave to proceed in forma pauperis and dispense

with oral argument because the facts and legal contentions are adequately presented in the materials before this court and argument would not aid the decisional process.

PETITION DENIED