UNPUBLISHED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

No. 26-1924

In re: DORA L. ADKINS,

Petitioner.

On Petition for Writ of Mandamus to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, at Alexandria. (1:26-cv-01880-PTG-LRV)

Submitted: July 27, 2026 Decided: August 25, 2026

Before WILKINSON and AGEE, Circuit Judges, and FLOYD, Senior Circuit Judge.

Petition denied by unpublished per curiam opinion.

Dora L. Adkins, Petitioner Pro Se.

Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.

PER CURIAM:

Dora L. Adkins petitions for a writ of mandamus, alleging that the district court has unduly delayed in ruling on her motions for leave to file a proposed emergency complaint and to expedite consideration. She seeks an order from this court directing the district court to rule immediately on these motions. She also requests that her action be immediately reassigned to another district court judge if the district court does not rule within seven days of the opinion from this court.

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). Mandamus relief is available only when the petitioner has a clear right to the relief sought and "has no other adequate means to attain the relief [she] desires." *Murphy-Brown*, 907 F.3d at 795 (citation modified). Mandamus may not be used as a substitute for appeal. *In re Lockheed Martin Corp.*, 503 F.3d 351, 353 (4th Cir. 2007).

The present record does not reveal undue delay in the district court, and the reassignment relief Adkins seeks is not available by way of mandamus. Accordingly, we deny Adkins' motion to expedite decision and deny the mandamus petition. We 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