

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE
AT NASHVILLE

FILED

09/30/2025

Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

STATE OF TENNESSEE v. CHRISTA GAIL PIKE

Criminal Court for Knox County
No. 58183A

No. M2020-01156-SC-DPE-DD

ORDER

The State of Tennessee filed a motion to set an execution date for Christa Gail Pike, stating that Ms. Pike has completed the standard three-tier appeals process and requesting that an execution date be set in accordance with Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 12(4)(A). In her response, Ms. Pike asks the Court to deny the motion and to issue a certificate of commutation to the governor pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated section 40-27-106 based on the extenuating circumstances of her case. An amicus brief was also filed by “International Scholars and Former Members and Staff of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights” in opposition to the State’s motion.

After careful review of the response, supporting documentation, and the amicus brief, the Court concludes that no “legal reason exists against the execution of the sentence” under section 40-23-119 and that under the principles announced in *Workman v. State*, 22 S.W.3d 807 (Tenn. 2000), Ms. Pike has presented no extenuating circumstances warranting issuance of a certificate of commutation. Accordingly, the request for a certificate of commutation is DENIED.

Upon due consideration, the State’s motion to set an execution date is GRANTED. Accordingly, under the provisions of Rule 12(4)(E), it is hereby ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED by this Court that the Warden of the Riverbend Maximum Security Institution, or his designee, shall execute the sentence of death as provided by law on the 30th day of September, 2026, unless otherwise ordered by this Court or other appropriate authority. No later than August 28, 2026, the Warden or his designee shall notify Ms. Pike of the method that the Tennessee Department of Correction (TDOC) will use to carry out the execution and of any decision by the Commissioner of TDOC to rely upon the Capital Punishment Enforcement Act. *See* Tenn. Code Ann. § 40-23-114.

Counsel for Christa Gail Pike shall provide a copy of any order staying execution of this order to the Office of the Clerk of the Appellate Court in Nashville. The Clerk shall expeditiously furnish a copy of any order of stay to the Warden of the Riverbend Maximum Security Institution.

PER CURIAM