

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT KNOXVILLE

**FILED**  
03/03/2025  
Clerk of the  
Appellate Courts

**STATE OF TENNESSEE v. HAROLD WAYNE NICHOLS**

**Criminal Court for Hamilton County  
No. 175504**

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**No. E1998-00562-SC-R11-PD**

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**ORDER**

On September 20, 2019, the State of Tennessee moved to set an execution date for Harold Wayne Nichols. The Court originally set the execution for August 4, 2020; however, executions were suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic by executive reprieve that expired on December 31, 2020. The Court sua sponte reset the execution for June 9, 2022; however, in April 2022, Governor Lee granted a temporary reprieve in another scheduled execution and subsequently paused all executions until a revised lethal injection protocol was announced on December 27, 2024.

Pursuant to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 12(4)(E), it is hereby ORDERED that the execution of Mr. Nichols is reset for December 11, 2025. The Warden of the Riverbend Maximum Security Institution, or his designee, shall notify Mr. Nichols no later than November 26, 2025, of the method the Tennessee Department of Correction (TDOC) will use to carry out the execution and any decision by the Commissioner of TDOC to rely upon the Capital Punishment Enforcement Act. *See* Tenn. Code Ann. § 40-23-114. Counsel for Mr. Nichols 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