COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL

Const/SCCrApp & CAIS No. 75 of 2024

Shavon Bethel

Intended Appellant

vs

The Director of Public Prosecutions

Intended Respondent

(Practice Direction 3/2025;
Application to adduce fresh evidence;
Substantive Appeal)
(Reserved Reasons)

Before: The Hon Mr Justice Smith, JA
The Hon Mr Justice Turner, JA
The Hon Mr Justice Hilton, JA

Ms Tanya Wright, Counsel for Intended Appellant
Ms Darnell Dorsette, with Ms Karine MacVean, Counsel for Intended Respondent

16 September 2026

The oral judgment of the court was delivered by

Smith, JA:

As the parties can appreciate, we have given some serious consideration to this matter, and I want to express, first of all, our serious concern over the delay that has occurred in prosecuting this matter. However, so as not to prolong any delay, we have a unanimous decision, and we propose to give our order today, with written reasons to follow.

The order we make today is that the appeal is dismissed, and we make the following consequential orders:

1. There is it be no stay of the proceedings against the appellant, except upon a specific order of this court.

2. If the arraignment and/or trial of this appellant does not commence on or before 31st December, 2026, through no fault of the appellant or his counsel, the trial in relation to this appellant is stayed.

3. Each party is to bear its own costs of the appeal.

Dated this 16th day of September 2026

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SMITH, JA

ss