

**STATE OF LOUISIANA**  
**COURT OF APPEAL, FIRST CIRCUIT**

STATE OF LOUISIANA

NO. 2019 KW 0256

VERSUS

STEPHEN COPELAND

**APR 29 2019**

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In Re: State of Louisiana, applying for supervisory writs,  
21st Judicial District Court, Parish of Tangipahoa,  
No. 1602397.

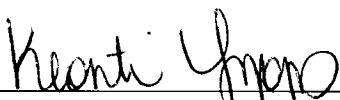
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**BEFORE: WELCH, CHUTZ, AND LANIER, JJ.**

**WRIT GRANTED.** The district court's ruling granting the defendant's motion to quash is reversed, and this matter is remanded for further proceedings. Under La. Code Crim. P. art. 580, when a defendant files a motion to quash or other preliminary pleas, time limitations established by La. Code Crim. P. art. 578 shall be suspended until a ruling of the court thereon; but in no case shall the state have less than one year after the ruling to commence trial. A bill of information charging the defendant with possession of cocaine and first degree negligent injuring was filed on October 7, 2016. Under La. Code Crim. P. art. 578, the state had two years to commence the defendant's trial. However, on August 30, 2018, the defendant filed several preliminary pleas. On October 24, 2018, after a hearing, the district court acted on at least one of the defendant's motions. Thus, the time limitations were suspended, and the state now has at least one year from the district court's ruling on the defendant's preliminary pleas to commence the defendant's trial.

**JEW  
WRC  
WIL**

COURT OF APPEAL, FIRST CIRCUIT



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DEPUTY CLERK OF COURT  
FOR THE COURT