



**In The
Court of Appeals
Seventh District of Texas at Amarillo**

No. 07-22-00085-CV

**IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF
MARK ANTHONY TIJERINA AND MICHELLE TIJERINA**

On Appeal from the 237th District Court
Lubbock County, Texas
Trial Court No. 2020-539,727, Honorable Les Hatch, Presiding

April 21, 2022

MEMORANDUM OPINION

Before QUINN, C.J., and PIRTLE and DOSS, JJ.

Appellant, Michelle Tijerina, appeals from the trial court's *Final Decree of Divorce*. The trial court signed the divorce decree on December 8, 2021. As no post-judgment motions or requests for findings were filed, a notice of appeal was due within thirty days after the order was signed, by January 7, 2022. TEX. R. APP. P. 26.1. Appellant filed a notice of appeal on March 23, 2022, accompanied by a motion requesting an extension of time to file the late appeal. The motion explained that appellant's counsel was retained on March 23, 2022, and filed a notice of appeal that day.

A timely notice of appeal is essential to invoking this Court's jurisdiction. See TEX. R. APP. P. 25.1(b), 26.1; *Verburgt v. Dorner*, 959 S.W.2d 615, 616-17 (Tex. 1997). Under Rule of Appellate Procedure 26.3, we may grant an extension of time to file a notice of appeal if the notice and a motion requesting an extension are filed within fifteen days of the appellate deadline. TEX. R. APP. P. 26.3. We are, however, prohibited from enlarging the time for perfecting an appeal any further. See *Verburgt*, 959 S.W.2d at 616-17; TEX. R. APP. P. 2 (providing that we may not suspend a rule's operation or order a different procedure to alter the time for perfecting an appeal).

By letter of March 29, 2022, we notified appellant that her notice of appeal appeared untimely and directed her to file a response by April 8 showing grounds for continuing the appeal or the appeal would be dismissed for want of jurisdiction. Appellant has not a filed a response or had any further communication with this Court to date.

Accordingly, we deny appellant's motion for an extension and dismiss her untimely appeal for want of jurisdiction. TEX. R. APP. P. 42.3(a).

Per Curiam