

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF TENNESSEE
AT KNOXVILLE
August 28, 2026

FILED

09/01/2026

Clerk of the
Appellate Courts

IN THE MATTER OF THE CONSERVATORSHIP OF MEIR ANAVI

Appeal from the Chancery Court for Hamilton County
No. 26-G-020 Pamela A Fleenor, Chancellor

No. E2026-01061-COA-R3-CV

The appellant seeks to appeal an order entered on March 12, 2026. The notice of appeal was not filed with the Appellate Court Clerk until July 10, 2026, more than thirty days later. Because the notice of appeal was not timely filed, we have no jurisdiction to consider this appeal.

Tenn. R. App. P. 3 Appeal as of Right; Appeal Dismissed

THOMAS R. FRIERSON, II, J.; KRISTI M. DAVIS, J.; AND WILLIAM E. PHILLIPS II, J.

Yigael Anavi, Ooltewah, Tennessee, Pro Se Appellant.

MEMORANDUM OPINION¹

The *pro se* appellant, Yigael Anavi, filed a notice of appeal in this case on July 10, 2026, stating that he is appealing a judgment that was entered by the Hamilton County Chancery Court (“trial court”) on March 12, 2026. Upon the filing of the notice of appeal, the trial court clerk notified this Court that the appellant’s notice of appeal was untimely filed and provided this Court with a copy of the order being appealed, as well as subsequent orders filed in the trial court. The trial court’s March 12, 2026 order appointed a conservator to serve the best interests of the respondent, Meir Anavi, and found that the appellant, Mr. Anavi’s son, is not an appropriate individual to serve as conservator.

¹ Rule 10 of the Rules of the Court of Appeals provides:

This Court, with the concurrence of all judges participating in the case, may affirm, reverse or modify the actions of the trial court by memorandum opinion when a formal opinion would have no precedential value. When a case is decided by memorandum opinion it shall be designated “MEMORANDUM OPINION,” shall not be published, and shall not be cited or relied on for any reason in any unrelated case.

The appellant subsequently filed an “Emergency Petition for Removal of Conservator, Request for New Hearing, and Notice of Due Process Violations,” which was denied by the trial court on April 13, 2026. Even if the appellant’s subsequent “Emergency Petition for Removal of Conservator, Request for New Hearing, and Notice of Due Process Violations” is considered a post-judgment motion that would extend the time for filing a notice of appeal, the trial court denied such motion by order entered on April 13, 2026. The most recent order entered by the trial court is dated May 28, 2026, in which the trial court found the appellant to be a vexatious litigant and placed restrictions on the appellant’s ability to file future filings in this matter. The notice of appeal was filed more than thirty days after that order.

In order to be timely, a notice of appeal must “be filed with the clerk of the appellate court within 30 days after the date of entry of the judgment appealed from.” Tenn. R. App. P. 4(a). “The thirty-day time limit for filing a notice of appeal is mandatory and jurisdictional in civil cases.” *Albert v. Frye*, 145 S.W.3d 526, 528 (Tenn. 2004). If a notice of appeal is not filed in a civil case in a timely fashion from the date of entry of the final judgment, we are not at liberty to waive the procedural defect and must dismiss the appeal. *See Arfken & Assocs., P.A. v. Simpson Bridge Co., Inc.*, 85 S.W.3d 789, 791 (Tenn. Ct. App. 2002); *Am. Steinwinter Investor Group v. Am. Steinwinter, Inc.*, 964 S.W.2d 569, 571 (Tenn. Ct. App. 1997); *Jefferson v. Pneumo Services Corp.*, 699 S.W.2d 181, 184 (Tenn. Ct. App. 1985).

When it became apparent that the notice of appeal had not been filed within thirty days after entry of the final judgment, this Court entered an order directing the appellant to show cause why this appeal should not be dismissed as having been untimely filed. The appellant filed a response to the motion acknowledging that “the formal Notice of Appeal ultimately filed with the Clerk of the Court of Appeals was not filed within thirty days of the March 12, 2026 conservatorship judgment.” The appellant further stated that rather than filing an appeal in this Court within thirty days, the appellant had attempted to challenge the trial court’s order in the trial court proceedings without appellate counsel and had mistakenly believed the appellate process began in the trial court. Since 2018, the only way to initiate an appeal as of right to this Court has been to file a notice of appeal with the appellate court clerk within thirty days of entry of a final judgment. The appellant did not do so in this case.

Because the notice of appeal in this case was filed more than thirty (30) days after the date of entry of the final order, we lack jurisdiction to consider the appeal. This appeal is dismissed. Costs on appeal are taxed to the appellant, Yigael Anavi, for which execution may issue if necessary.

PER CURIAM