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UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

No. 20-2144

LANCE DAVID WILLIAMS, PETITIONER,

v.

ROBERT L. WILKIE,
SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, RESPONDENT.

Before BARTLEY, *Chief Judge*.

ORDER

*Note: Pursuant to U.S. Vet. App. R. 30(a),
this action may not be cited as precedent.*

On March 25, 2020, veteran Lance David Williams filed through counsel a petition for extraordinary relief in the nature of a writ of mandamus. Mr. Williams asserted that a writ of mandamus was necessary to compel the Los Angeles VA regional office (RO) to issue a decision regarding several pending claims. On March 27, 2020, the Court ordered the Secretary to respond to Mr. Williams's petition.

On April 15, 2020, before the Secretary filed a response, Mr. Williams filed an unopposed motion for voluntary dismissal of the petition. Mr. Williams reported that on March 30, 2020, the RO issued a Statement of the Case addressing the outstanding issues on appeal. In light of this development, Mr. Williams indicated that his petition became moot. On April 24, 2020, the Court issued an order revoking its March 27, 2020, order directing the Secretary to respond.

This Court adheres to the case-or-controversy jurisdictional requirements imposed by Article III of the U.S. Constitution. *Cardona v. Shinseki*, 26 Vet.App. 472, 474 (2014) (per curiam order); *Mokal v. Derwinski*, 1 Vet.App. 12, 13 (1990). When the relief requested in a petition has been obtained, the appropriate course of action is for the Court to dismiss the petition as moot. *Thomas v. Brown*, 9 Vet.App. 269, 270-71 (1996) (per curiam order); *Bond v. Derwinski*, 2 Vet.App. 376, 377 (1992) (per curiam) ("When there is no case or controversy, or when a once live case or controversy becomes moot, the Court lacks jurisdiction."). Because Mr. Williams has been afforded the relief requested in his petition and there is no continuing case or controversy before the Court, the petition is moot, and the proper remedy is to dismiss the petition. *See Thomas*, 9 Vet.App. at 270-71; *Bond*, 2 Vet.App. at 377.

Because there is no longer a live case or controversy warranting judicial review, the Court will grant Mr. Williams's motion to dismiss the petition. Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that Mr. Williams's April 15, 2020, motion to dismiss the petition is granted, and the petition for extraordinary relief in the nature of a writ of mandamus is DISMISSED as moot.

DATED: May 4, 2020

BY THE COURT:



MARGARET BARTLEY
Chief Judge

Copies to:

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