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S.C. SUPREME COURT

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ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 27, 2023

(Via Email Only: [suptfilings@sccourts.org](mailto:suptfilings@sccourts.org))

The Honorable Donald W. Beatty, Chief Justice  
Supreme Court of South Carolina  
1231 Gervais Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Re: Jerry Buck Inman, a/k/a Jerry Buck Inmon v. State of South Carolina  
Appellate Case No: 2020-000881; Lower Court Case No. 2012-CP-39-00918  
\*Capital Post-Conviction Relief Action\*  
Retired Judge, Non-active Status, and Remand Proceedings Inquiry

Dear Chief Justice:

I write, with permission of the prior assigned PCR judge and opposing counsel, to inquire as to the proper judge assignment for remand proceedings in this capital matter.

In a *per curiam* opinion issued on February 15, 2023, this Court reversed a prior grant of relief on one issue, then remanded for the PCR judge to address the remaining issues. The remittitur was issued on March 2, 2023, and filed with the Pickens County Clerk of Court on March 6, 2023. Consequently, the matter should be proceeding in the lower court. However, the Honorable Alexander S. Macaulay was the PCR judge, (*see* Order of October 31, 2012), and Judge Macaulay is no longer shown as active or "active/retired" on the Circuit Court Judges Roster. The question is whether that fact requires an assignment of another judge. Judge Macaulay, with the assistance of Judge Sprouse's chambers, graciously met with counsel for Mr. Inman and undersigned counsel for the State, using Judge Sprouse's virtual courtroom. Neither counsel for the parties nor Judge Macaulay could answer that question and it was resolved to reach out to the Court for guidance. We are awaiting direction from this Court before engaging in any additional proceedings.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Should you need anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Melody J. Brown  
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

MJB/abb

cc: The Honorable Alexander S. Macaulay (via U.S. mail and  
email to Judge Sprouse's chambers)  
E. Charles Grose, Jr., Esq. (via email only)  
Diana L. Holt, Esq., (via email only)  
Trisha Allen, Victim Services