

# Fifteenth Circuit Public Defender

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July 2, 2013

Ms. V. Claire Allen  
Deputy Clerk  
The South Carolina Court of Appeals  
Post Office Box 11629  
Columbia, SC 29211

**RECEIVED**

JUL 05 2013

**SC Court of Appeals**

RE: The State v. Bobby McConnell  
Appellate Case No. 2013-000683

Dear Ms. Allen,

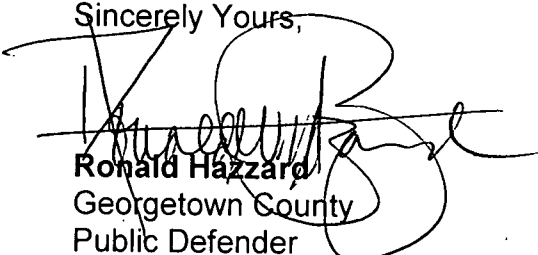
I am in receipt of and thank you for your letter dated June 19, 2013 in the above-referenced matter. During Mr. McConnell's guilty plea on March 18, 2013 he was informed by the sentencing judge that he had the right to appeal his plea. Subsequent to the plea proceeding in which Mr. McConnell received two consecutive five (5) year sentences for killing a dog, Mr. McConnell requested that I file an appeal on his behalf. It is my understanding that Mr. McConnell's basis for appeal is an assertion of disproportionate sentencing in violation of Article 1, Section 15 of the South Carolina Constitution and the Eighth Amendment of the United States Constitution, both of which prohibit cruel and unusual punishment.

Plea counsel attempted to address this matter with the sentencing judge by way of a motion to reconsider sentencing on March 21, 2013. The sentencing judge refused to entertain the motion with said refusal having been made in open court. I filed the appeal on Mr. McConnell's behalf and pursuant to his request following the sentencing court's refusal to hear the motion to

reconsider sentence in Mr. McConnell's case.

I hope that this information is sufficient and appropriate. If there are any other issues in this matter that I can address, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely Yours,



Ronald Hazzard  
Georgetown County  
Public Defender