



RECEIVED

Sep 29 2023

S.C. SUPREME COURT

State of South Carolina
The Circuit Court of the Seventh Judicial Circuit

Grace Gilchrist Knie
Judge
gkniej@sccourts.org

180 Magnolia Street
Spartanburg, SC 29306
Phone: (864) 596-2285
Fax: (864) 562-4234

September 29th, 2023
Via electronic mail only

The Honorable Patricia A. Howard
Clerk of Court
Supreme Court of South Carolina
P.O. Box 11330
Columbia, SC 29211
supctfilings@sccourts.org

In re: The State, Respondent v. John Richard Wood, Appellant;
Appellate Case No. 2002-022661 PCR Capital Case
John Richard Wood, Applicant v. The State, Respondent;
PCR Case No. 2022-CP-23-06219

Dear Madam Clerk:

By Order of The South Carolina Supreme Court dated November 17th, 2022, I have been assigned to the Capital PCR action of the above Appellant/Applicant. In compliance with the Order I am filing my fifth update to inform The Court that I held a Status Conference today on the record regarding an update in that the former Stay in this matter has been lifted as of August 31st, 2023, and the decision of *Owens v. Stirling* execution methods litigation. In attendance at the hearing were Counsel for the Applicant Lindsey S. Vann, Esq., Emily C. Paavola, Esq., and Allison Ann Franz, Esq. of the office Justice 360, and also Melody J. Brown, Esq., on behalf the SC Attorney General's Office. Counsel for the State informed the Court that she deemed it appropriate for another Status Conference hearing to be scheduled after thirty days due to the ongoing litigation in *Owens v. Stirling*. Counsel for Applicant agreed.

Letter, Supreme Court of South Carolina
September 29th, 2023
Page 2 of 2

Therefore, a Status Conference will be scheduled in this matter after thirty days.

Should you have any concerns or questions please contact my office.

Sincerely,



Grace Gilchrist Knie
Circuit Court Judge
Seventh Judicial Circuit

cc: Melody J. Brown, Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General, mbrown@scag.gov
Lindsey S. Vann, Esq., Executive Director, Justice 360, lindsey@justice360sc.org
Emily C. Paavola, Esq., Justice 360/Death Penalty Resource & Defense Center,
emily@justice360sc.org
Allison Ann Franz, Esq. Justice 360, allison@justice360sc.org