

**From:** [Hoyns, Lauren](#)  
**To:** [Schumacher, William F.](#); - [COA Williams](#); - [COA Hewitt](#); - [COA Verdin](#)  
**Cc:** [Kitchings, Jenny](#); [Orr, Jacklyn](#); [Falin, Lynn](#); [Hackett, Susan](#); [Dunnivant, Tara](#); [O'Brien, Liam](#); [Dawson, Kallyn](#); [Catoe, Catherine](#); [Strickland, Lindsey M.](#); [Morris, Alicia E.](#); [Au, Mary](#)  
**Subject:** RE: September PCRs Panel A  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 13, 2023 12:34:53 PM

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Dear Chief Judge Williams, Judge Hewitt, and Staff,

Judge Verdin has reviewed the below PCR cases and agrees with the staff attorneys' recommendation to deny certiorari and relieve counsel:

1. *Robinson v. State*, 2019-001378 (Kali Dawson)
2. *Spirakis v. State*, 2021-000887 (Susan Hackett)
3. *Johnson v. State*, 2021-001094 (Bill Schumacher)
4. *Berridge v. State*, 2021-001244 (Catherine Catoe)
5. *Jeter v. State*, 2022-000978 (Lindsey Strickland)

Judge Verdin agrees with the recommendation to grant certiorari as to Question 2 and deny certiorari as to Questions 1 and 3 for the below case:

6. *Owens v. State*, 2020-000560 (Liam O'Brien)

Judge Verdin agrees with the recommendation to grant certiorari from Judge McCoy's order and deny certiorari from Judge Dickson's order for the below case:

7. *Blake v. State*, 2021-000708 (Bill Schumacher)

Sincerely,

**Lauren Hoyns**

Law Clerk to the Honorable Letitia H. Verdin  
South Carolina Court of Appeals  
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**From:** Schumacher, William F. <[wfschumacher@sccourts.org](mailto:wfschumacher@sccourts.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 3:09 PM  
**To:** - COA Williams <[COA\\_Williams@sccourts.org](mailto:COA_Williams@sccourts.org)>; - COA Hewitt <[COA\\_Hewitt@sccourts.org](mailto:COA_Hewitt@sccourts.org)>; - COA Verdin <[COA\\_Verdin@sccourts.org](mailto:COA_Verdin@sccourts.org)>  
**Cc:** Kitchings, Jenny <[jkitchings@sccourts.org](mailto:jkitchings@sccourts.org)>; Orr, Jacklyn <[jorr@sccourts.org](mailto:jorr@sccourts.org)>; Falin, Lynn <[LFalin@sccourts.org](mailto:LFalin@sccourts.org)>; Hackett, Susan <[sbhackett@sccourts.org](mailto:sbhackett@sccourts.org)>; Dunnivant, Tara <[tdunnivant@sccourts.org](mailto:tdunnivant@sccourts.org)>; O'Brien, Liam <[lobrien@sccourts.org](mailto:lobrien@sccourts.org)>; Schumacher, William F. <[wfschumacher@sccourts.org](mailto:wfschumacher@sccourts.org)>; Dawson, Kallyn <[kdawson@sccourts.org](mailto:kdawson@sccourts.org)>; Catoe, Catherine <[ccatoe@sccourts.org](mailto:ccatoe@sccourts.org)>; Strickland, Lindsey M. <[lstrickland@sccourts.org](mailto:lstrickland@sccourts.org)>; Morris, Alicia E. <[aemorris@sccourts.org](mailto:aemorris@sccourts.org)>; Au, Mary <[MAu@sccourts.org](mailto:MAu@sccourts.org)>  
**Subject:** September PCRs Panel A

Dear Chief Judge Williams, Judge Hewitt, and Judge Verdin:

The following post-conviction relief cases are ready for your consideration. The screening

reports and proposed orders are attached to this email, and they are also available on C-Track and the G: drive. Once the panel has voted to grant or deny the petitions, Jenny will sign and file orders in accordance with the Supreme Court's administrative order. *See Grants or Denials of Petitions for Writs of Certiorari Under Rules 242, 243 and 247 of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules*, S.C. Sup. Ct. Order dated Jan. 20, 2016.

1. *Owens v. State*, 2020-000560 (Liam O'Brien)
2. *Blake v. State*, 2021-000708 (Bill Schumacher)
3. *Johnson v. State*, 2021-001094 (Bill Schumacher)
4. *Robinson v. State*, 2019-001378 (Kali Dawson)
5. *Spirakis v. State*, 2021-000887 (Susan Hackett)
6. *Berridge v. State*, 2021-001244 (Catherine Catoe)
7. *Jeter v. State*, 2022-000978 (Lindsey Strickland)
8. *Smoak v. State*, 2019-001607 (Kali Dawson)
9. *Hayes v. State*, 2021-000445 (Alicia Morris)
10. *Hughes v. State*, 2021-001415 (Mary Au/Shaina Barber)
11. *Hill v. State*, 2021-001450 (Liam O'Brien)

Thank you for your consideration of these cases. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,  
Bill

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