

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In the Court of Appeals

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SC Court of Appeals

Appeal from the Administrative Law Court

Deborah B. Durden, Administrative Law Judge

Appellate Case No. 2023-001384

Ronald Ceo, #258464,

Appellant,

v.

South Carolina Department of Corrections, Respondent.

RECORD ON APPEAL

Ronald Ceo # 258464  
MacDougall Corr. Inst.  
1516 Old Gilliard Rd.  
Ridgeville, S.C. 29472  
Appellant Pro Se

Joseph R. Shakibarrasab  
Office of General Counsel  
S.C. Department of Corr.  
4444 Broad River Rd.  
Columbia, S.C. 29221

Attorney for Respondent

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**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW COURT**

Ronald Ceo, #258464,

Appellant,

v.

South Carolina Department of Corrections,

Respondent.

Docket No. 23-ALJ-04-0003-AP  
Grievance No. MACD 156-22

**ORDER**

This matter is before the South Carolina Administrative Law Court (ALC or Court) pursuant to the Notice of Appeal filed by Ronald Ceo (Appellant), who is incarcerated with the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC or Department).

Appellant appeals the decision of SCDC denying his Step 2 Grievance requesting to submit his sentencing transcript and sentencing sheet to prove he was not sentenced to complete the community service program (CSP). Appellant appeals on the grounds he was denied due process. Appellant also moves to supplement the record with his sentencing transcript and sentencing sheet.

**STANDARD OF REVIEW**

The Court's jurisdiction to hear this matter is derived from the decision of the South Carolina Supreme Court in Al-Shabazz v. State, 338 S.C. 354, 527 S.E.2d 742 (2000). When reviewing SCDC's decisions in inmate grievance matters, the Court sits in an appellate capacity. Id. at 377, 527 S.E.2d at 754. Consequently, the review in these cases is limited to the record presented.

[T]he ALC has subject matter jurisdiction over inmate grievance appeals that have been properly filed. . . . However, the ALC is not required to hold a hearing in every matter and may summarily dismiss an inmate's grievance if it does not implicate a state-created liberty or property interest sufficient to trigger procedural due process guarantees. The ALC may not grant an inmate relief from an erroneous administrative decision by SCDC, however, unless the inmate demonstrates the error deprived him of due process.

Allen v. S.C. Dep't of Corr., 439 S.C. 164, 170-71, 886 S.E.2d 671, 674 (2023) (internal citations omitted). "The requirements of procedural due process apply only to the deprivation of interests encompassed by the Fourteenth Amendment's protection of liberty and property." Al-Shabazz, 338 S.C. at 369, 527 S.E.2d at 750.



An Administrative Law Judge may not substitute their judgment for that of an agency "as to the weight of the evidence on questions of fact." S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-380(5) (Supp. 2022). Furthermore, an Administrative Law Judge may not reverse or modify an agency's decision unless substantial rights of the Appellant have been prejudiced because the decision is clearly erroneous in view of the substantial evidence on the whole record, arbitrary, or affected by an error of law. See Id.; See also Marietta Garage, Inc. v. S.C. Dep't. of Pub. Safety, 337 S.C. 133, 136-37, 522 S.E.2d 605, 607 (Ct. App. 1999).

### DISCUSSION


On September 9, 2022, Appellant filed a Step One Grievance requesting to have completion of the CSP removed from his sentence. Appellant alleged neither his sentencing sheet nor transcript mentioned CSP. Appellant argued requiring him to complete CSP violated his right to due process. The Department denied Appellant's Step One Grievance on October 3, 2022. On October 4, 2022, Appellant filed a Step Two Grievance alleging his right to due process was violated by requiring him to complete CSP. The Department denied Appellant's Step Two Grievance on November 30, 2022. Appellant filed his Notice of Appeal with the ALC on January 4, 2023. On March 7, 2023, Appellant filed a Motion to Supplement the Record with his sentencing sheet and sentencing transcript. On March 28, 2023, an Order Granting Appellant's Motion to Include Documents into the Record was issued. On April 5, 2023, the Department filed its Record on Appeal including the supplemented documents. On May 19, 2023, the Department filed its Respondent's Brief. A state-created liberty interest is involved because Appellant alleges his sentence was erroneously calculated. Therefore, it is necessary to determine if Appellant received the process he was due.

Appellant plead guilty to Homicide by Child Abuse in violation of S.C. Code Ann. § 16-3-85(A)(1) (2015) and was sentenced to thirty-five years imprisonment. "[A]ny sentence for a 'no parole offense' as defined in Section 24-13-100 must include any term of incarceration and completion of a community supervision program operated by the Department of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services." S.C. Code Ann. § 24-21-560(A) (2007). Homicide by Child Abuse is a no parole offense. See S.C. Code Ann. § 24-13-100 (2007) (identifying "no parole offense[s]" as those offenses that are exempt from classification as enumerated in S.C. Code Ann. § 16-1-10(D) (Supp. 2022) and is punishable by incarceration for twenty or more years); see also § 16-1-10(D) (listing causing the death of a child pursuant to section 16-3-85(C)(1) as

exempt from classification). Section 16-3-85(C)(1) states “[h]omicide by child abuse is a felony and a person who is convicted of or pleads guilty to homicide by child abuse: . . . under subsection (A)(1) may be imprisoned for life but not less than a term of twenty years . . . .” Therefore, Appellant’s conviction was for a no parole offense and Appellant is required to complete CSP upon completion of his prison sentence.

As a matter of law, Appellant must complete CSP. Therefore, Appellant’s sentence was not erroneously calculated. Appellant has failed to demonstrate error depriving him of due process and the Court may not grant Appellant relief from the Department’s decision. Where an inmate has received the minimal due process due in an inmate grievance matter, no further inquiry is required and the decision of the Department should be affirmed unless the decision is arbitrary, capricious, or based on personal bias or prejudice, none of which is evident in the record before the Court. In the case at hand, the Court will not substitute its judgment for that of the agency because there is adequate evidence to support the decision, which is clearly not arbitrary, capricious, or affected by any personal bias or prejudice.

Therefore, for the foregoing reasons, the Department’s decision is **AFFIRMED**.  
**AND IT IS SO ORDERED.**

  
Deborah Brooks Durdén, Judge  
S.C. Administrative Law Court

August 15, 2023  
Columbia, South Carolina

DATE DUE: 10-7-22

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
INMATE GRIEVANCE FORM  
STEP 2

Office Use Only

INMATE NAME: Ronald Ceo  
SCDC NUMBER: 258464  
INSTITUTION: MacDougall  
HOUSING UNIT: M1B3B  
WORK ASSIGNMENT: Maintenance

Grievance No. MACD 0156-22  
Code: General CL/CL  
Policy \_\_\_\_\_  
Disc. Hear. \_\_\_\_\_  
Class \_\_\_\_\_  
PREA \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Received: 10-6-22  
IGC Initials: AW  
Date Received: 10/14/22  
IGA Initials: AW

RECEIVED  
03-12-2022

INMATE'S REASON FOR APPEAL (state specific dissatisfaction): My Sentencing Transcript nor my sentencing sheet does not mention anything about CSP. It is a fundamental violation of the Due Process clause of the United States Constitution to add a penalty to a Sentencing Judges Sentence that was not pronounced by the Court a administration agency is forbidden to do so. I requested to submit my Sentencing transcript and Sentencing sheet for documentation to prove that the Court did not sentence me to CSP. The IGC denied me the right to submit supporting documentation.  
See Kiosk Reference #s 22-02804304 & 22-02819769 I am requesting Kiosk ref # be part of the record  
Grievant Signature Ronald Ceo Date 10-4-2022

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL'S DECISION AND REASON:

I have reviewed your concern. In your grievance you stated that you were told by Classification staff at MacDougall Correctional Institution (MACD) that you are designated to serve community supervision as a condition of your sentence. You state that you reviewed your sentencing sheet transcript and could not locate anything that indicates that you were designated to complete community supervision. You claim that your due process and constitutional rights are being violated because you believe that SCDC added this condition to your sentence without prior approval. You have requested that community supervision be removed from your sentence. Be advised that you are serving an 85% No Parole sentence. All inmates who are given this sentence must be released to Community Supervision after serving 85% of their incarceration time. There has been no discrepancy or misinterpretation of information regarding the calculation of your sentence.

Therefore, your grievance is denied.

You may appeal this decision under the Administrative Procedures Act to the Administrative Law Court. In order to appeal, you must fill out the attached Notice of Appeal Form and submit it as instructed on the form within 30 days of receipt.

Responsible Official Signature Stacy Leland Date 11/30/22

The decision rendered by the responsible official exhausts the appeal process of the Inmate Grievance Procedure. I hereby acknowledge receipt of the official's response and understand this is the Agency's final response to this matter.

Grievant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date 2. IGC Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

13 2022

INMATE GRIEVANCE FORM

STEP 1

NS

INMATE NAME: <u>Ronald Ceo</u>	OFFICE USE ONLY
SCDC NUMBER: <u>258464</u>	Grievance No. <u>MACD 015472</u>
INSTITUTION: <u>MacDougal</u>	Code: General <u>CL/CL</u>
HOUSING UNIT: <u>MB3B</u>	Policy _____
WORK ASSIGNMENT: <u>Maintenance</u>	Disc. Hear. _____
	Class. _____
	PREA _____
	Date Received <u>9-15-22</u>
	IGC Initials <u>DH</u>

STATEMENT OF GRIEVANCE (Indicate the date of incident, and if the grievance is a challenge to SCDC Policy, specify which policy. Include supporting documentation and attach answered RTSM or Kiosk reference number.) I was told by MacDougal Classification Case worker that I have Community Supervision as part of my sentence. However after I reviewed my Sentencing sheet and transcript. The commitment orders did not mention anything about Community Supervision. It is a Due process violation of the U.S. Constitution to add a Penalty to a Judge sentence that was not pronounced.

Kiosk Reference # 22-02769071 \*  
 " # 22-02794076 \*

Ronald Ceo 9-9-2022  
 Grievant Signature Date

ACTION REQUESTED:  
To have community supervision excise from my sentence.

ACTION TAKEN BY IGC:  PROCESSED  UNPROCESSED  OTHER

See Warden's Decision

[Signature] 9-16-22  
 IGC Signature Date

**WARDEN'S DECISION AND REASON:**

Ceo, Ronald 258464

MACD-0156-22

I have reviewed your concern. In your grievance you state that the Caseworker has told you that you have Community Supervision after your Sentence. However you allege that you do not have any paperwork stating this issue. You are requesting that the Community Supervision be expunged from your record. According to Classification staff, you are required as a mandatory condition upon your release by SCDI whereby an inmate is released to community supervision under SCDPPPS, upon serving a mandatory minimum percentage of their sentence with or without parole eligibility.

Therefore your grievance is denied.

If you disagree with this Warden's Decision you may file a Step 1 Grievance Appeal by completing SCDI Inmate Grievance Form 10-5-A, which is provided to you in whole, copy of this decision and placing it in the Grievance Box in your housing unit within (5) days of your receipt of this decision.

W. M. Teal 10/3/22  
Warden Signature Date

I accept the Warden's decision and consider the matter closed.

I do not accept the Warden's decision and wish to appeal.

Ronald Ceo 5-10-4-22  
Grievant Signature Date

[Signature] 10-4-22  
IGC Signature Date

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING STEP 1 GRIEVANCE FORM**

1. An informal resolution shall be attempted prior to the filing of Step 1 by sending an Inmate Request to Staff Member (RTSM) form or Kiosk reference number to the appropriate supervisor. A copy of the answered RTSM must be attached to the grievance when the grievance is filed.
2. Complete each section in its entirety writing only in the space provided for inmate use. No additional pages will be permitted.
3. Only one (1) issue is to be addressed on each form.
4. Submit the completed form by placing it in the Grievance Box at your institution within eight (8) working days of the date on the RTSM response; policy grievances can be filed at any time. Disciplinary and Classification Review appeals must be submitted within five (5) working days of the hearing/review. Do not write in the space provided for the Warden's response.
5. If you are not satisfied with the Warden's decision, you may appeal to the appropriate responsible official within five (5) days of your receipt of the Warden's decision, by placing your Step 2 appeal form in the Grievance Box at your institution.

### Inmate Request - General

Today's Date: 4/5/2023 8:36

Name: CEO, RONALD  
Booking #: 258464  
Permanent #: 258464

Reference #: 22-02804304  
Date Requested: 09/15/22 13:47  
Request Type: Grievance  
Requested By: Kiosk

Request Details: RE: MACD 0138-23 Dear Ms Haney, I apologize for any inconvenience but in regards to the above mention grievance. I have a copy of my Sentencing sheet and Sentencing transcript and I will like to submit a copy of these documents to you for your record as you investigate this grievance Please note these documents are relevant to the grievance because they show I was not sentence to CSP. P.S. I will put the documents in the mail upon your response. Again I apologize for any inconvenience.

Disposition: Complete  
Officer:  
Disposition Date: 09/20/22 14:11

#### Request Responses

Date	Author	Note
09/20/22 14:13	c061981	The instructions on the rear of the grievance form clearly states that attachments are prohibited. If I need additional documentation I will request the same from staff. Any attachments submitted will be returned to you Please govern yourself accordingly.

## Inmate Request - General

Today's Date: 4/5/2023 8:40

Name: CEO, RONALD  
 Booking #: 258464  
 Permanent #: 258464

Reference #: 22-02819769  
 Date Requested: 09/26/22 18:48  
 Request Type: Grievance  
 Requested By: Kiosk

**Request Details:** RE: Grievance No. MACD-0138-22 To: I.G.B. Chief Ms. McKie, First of all I would like to apologize for any inconvenience. I am writing in regards to the above mention grievance as it relates to supporting documentation I filed a Step1 grievance pertaining to classification and my sentence. I ask the IGC (see below kiosk Reference#) that I would like to submit my Sentencing Transcript and Sentencing Sheet as supporting documentation. The documents support my grievance that I was not sentenced to CSP. The IGC told me it was prohibited and if I send it she would send it back. However the IGC overlooked on the face of the Step 1 grievance form under statement of grievance it explicitly say Include supporting documentation. I would like to submit these documents so they can be part of the record because they are in support of my grievance. Thank you for your time. See Kiosk reference# 22-02804304

Disposition: Complete  
 Officer:  
 Disposition Date: 10/11/22 09:25

Request Responses		
Date	Author	Note
10/11/22 09:27	c061981	Inmate Ceo, I agree with the IGC The rear of SCDC Form 10-5 clearly states that "no additional pages will be permitted." Any documentation needed for our investigation can be acquired from staff in the institution, Please govern yourself accordingly.

## Inmate Request - General

Today's Date: 4/5/2023 8:40

Name: CEO, RONALD  
Booking #: 258464  
Permanent #: 258464

Reference #: 22-02769071  
Date Requested: 08/21/22 16:01  
Request Type: Classification  
Requested By: Kiosk

Request Details: I would like to know if I have Community Supervision as part of my sentence?

Disposition: Complete  
Officer:  
Disposition Date: 08/22/22 11:22

**Request Responses**

Date	Author	Note
08/22/22 11:28	c063919	Yes.



### Inmate Request - General

Today's Date: 4/5/2023 8:41

Name: CEO, RONALD  
Booking #: 258464  
Permanent #: 258464

Reference #: 22-02794076  
Date Requested: 09/08/22 21:51  
Request Type: Classification  
Requested By: Kiosk

Request Details: This is in reference to the question that I ask you on August 21, 2022 about Community Supervision. I received a copy of my sentencing sheet and it does not mention that I have to do Community Supervision or that the Judge sentence me to it.

Disposition: Complete  
Officer:  
Disposition Date: 09/09/22 13:00

Request Responses		
Date	Author	Note
09/09/22 13:03	c063919	Community Supervision is a mandatory conditional release administered by SCDC whereby an inmate is released to Community Supervision under SCDPPPS upon serving a mandatory minimum percentage of his sentence with or without parole eligibility

CMT1100D  
OMCOMITA

SCDC OFFENDER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM  
COMMITMENT APPLICATION  
CONVICTION SUMMARY

04/05/23  
C052640

SCDC# > 258464  
CEO, RONALD -

CURR LOC: MACDOUGA  
SCDC CLASSIFICATION...: VIOLENT

OFFENDER TYPE: ADULT-STRAIGHT SENTENCE

NUM	CONVICTION OFFENSE	INCARC	SENT	SENT	SENT	CONV	VIO
		YRS	MO	DYS	DATE	START	PROJ
* S00001	HOMICIDE BY CHILD AB	035	00	000	05/25/99	03/31/98	12/22/2027
							AC V V

PAGE: 0001

MAKE A SELECTION AND PRESS <ENTER>...

PF3-ADD PF4-MODIFY/RVK PF5-ADD DUPL PF6-DISP CONSEC PF9-DETAIN PF12-SUMRPT

CMTI:OOD SCDC OFFENDER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM 04/05/23  
 OMCOMITA CONVICTION INQUIRY C052640  
 SCDC #: 258464 YOA NONCONFORM SENT: CURR LOC: MACDOUGA  
 CEO, RONALD - NONCONFORM SENT: N RTRN TO COURT:  
 OFFENDER TYPE: ADULT-STRAIGHT SENTENCE  
 CONVICTION NUM: S00001 INDICT NUM: 99-GS-339 WARRANT NUM: E106959  
 DATE SENTENCED.: 05/25/1999 JUDGE LAST.: BARBER, III FI: J  
 STATUTE: 16-03-0085 (A) (1) CDR CODE.: 2356 GPS IND: N  
 OFFENSE: 0923 HOMICIDE BY CHILD ABUSE OFFENSE DATE: 04/01/1998  
 CHARACT: F FACILITATION OF COUNTS: 01 OFFENSE CNTY: 34 MARION  
 PLEA...: G GUILTY TYPE OF COURT.....  
 TYPE SENTENCE... : S ADULT-STRAIGHT SCDC JURIS DATE...: 05/25/1999  
 TOTAL SENTENCE...: 035 00 000 MAND SERV REQMT...: 029 09 000  
 INCARC SENTENCE...: 035 00 000 PAROLE FACTOR...: 2 1/3 SENT. REQ.  
 PROBATION SENT...: 000 00 000 PAROLE SERV REQMT: 999 99 999  
 HIP SENT.....: 000 00 000 HAYES CRED: 00000  
 RESTITUTION REQMT: N AMT: .00 JAIL CRED: 00420 EXTRA CRED: 00000  
 CONVICTION STATUS: AC ACTIVE SENT START DATE: 03/31/1998 DOM.IND: N  
 CONSECUTIVE IND...: N SPOUSE ABUSE: STATUTE CLASS: VIOLENT  
 DNA OFFENSE IND...: Y EEC ELIG: Y DEATH UTERO: SCDC CLASS...: VIOLENT  
 SEX REG: N PRED OFF: N LAST UPDATE: INDICTEX DATE: 02/24/21  
 NO PAROLE: NO PAROLE CREATED BY.: T SIMMONS DATE: 05/26/99

PF8-NEXT CONVICTION PF9-DETAIN PF4-RESTITUTION PAID(FA ONLY)

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF MARION

STATE VS.

RONALD CEO

AKA: \_\_\_\_\_  
Race: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_  
DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
SSN: \_\_\_\_\_  
DL#: \_\_\_\_\_  
SID#: \_\_\_\_\_

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS  
INDICTMENT/CASE#:

99-GS-33-9

A/W#: E106959

Date of Offense: April 1, 1998

S.C. Code § : 16-3-85(A)(1)

CDR Code #: 2131516

SENTENCE

PLEA  TRIAL

In disposition of the said indictment comes now the Defendant who was  CONVICTED OF or  PLEADS TO: Homicide by Child Abuse

in violation of § 16-3-85(A)(1) of the S.C. Code of Laws, bearing CDR Code # 2131516

NON-VIOLENT  VIOLENT  SERIOUS  MOST SERIOUS  17-25-45

The charge is:  As Indicted,  Lesser Included Offense,  Defendant Waives Presentment to Grand Jury.

The plea is:  Without Negotiations or Recommendation,  Negotiated Sentence,  Recommendation by the State.

ATTEST:  
Wells, Jr. Solicitor Ronald Co Defendant \_\_\_\_\_ Attorney for Defendant

WHEREFORE, the Defendant is committed to the  State Department of Corrections,  County Detention Center, for a determinate term of 35 days/months/years or  under the Youthful Offender Act not to exceed \_\_\_\_\_ years and/or to pay a fine of \$ \_\_\_\_\_; provided that upon the service of \_\_\_\_\_ days/months/years and/or payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_; plus costs and assessments as applicable\*; the balance is suspended with probation for \_\_\_\_\_ months/years and subject to South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services control of the conditions of probation, which are incorporated by reference.

The Defendant is to be given credit for \_\_\_\_\_ days/months jail time.  
 CONCURRENT or  CONSECUTIVE to sentence on: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

RESTITUTION  Heard,  Waived,  Ordered  
Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ plus 20% fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Payment Terms: \_\_\_\_\_  
 set by SCDPPPS \_\_\_\_\_

Recipient: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Fine: .....\$  
§ 14-1-206 - Assessments 100%.....\$  
§ 14-1-211 - Surcharge.....\$  
(Exceptions: See § 14-1-211)  
§ 56-5-2995 (DUI).....\$  
County (3%).....\$  
TOTAL.....\$

PTUP \_\_\_\_\_ CLERK OF COURT, COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ days/hours Public Service/Community Employment  
Obtain GED \_\_\_\_\_  
Attend Voc Rehab. or Job Corps \_\_\_\_\_  
May serve W/E beginning \_\_\_\_\_  
Substance Abuse Counseling \_\_\_\_\_  
Random Drug/Alcohol Testing \_\_\_\_\_  
Fine may be pd. in equal, consecutive weekly/monthly pmts. of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ beginning \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ paid to Public Defender Fund.  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_

PRESIDING JUDGE [Signature]  
Judge Code: 1101 1/1  
Sentence Date: 5/25/99

Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk: [Signature]  
Court Reporter: [Signature]  
White - Clerk Green - Corrections Canary - Probation Pink - Defendant

CNFIL3:ND  
CMCOMITA  
SCDC# > 258464

SCDC OFFENDER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM  
RELEASE DATE SCREEN

04/05/23  
C052640

CEO, RONALD -  
LEGAL NAME:  
OFFENDER TYPE...: ADULT-STRAIGHT SENTENCE  
TABLET ELIGIBLE.: Y

LOC: MACDOUGALL  
SCDC CLASSIFICATION...: VIOLENT  
SEXUAL REGISTRY...: N  
SEXUAL PREDATOR...: NOT APP  
DNA STATUS...: COMPLETED  
GPS REQUIREMENT...: N  
PREA DECISION...: [REDACTED]  
PREA PERP...: [REDACTED]

PREA VICTIM...: [REDACTED]  
CURRENT SENTENCE: 035-00-000  
035-00-000

CONSECUTIVE SENTENCE ...: N  
CURRENT SENT START DATE: 03/31/1998

PROJECTED COMPLETION DATES  
MAXOUT DATE .....: 12/22/2027  
YOA SIX YEAR DATE: / /  
INITIAL PAROLE DATE: 00/00/0000

CURRENT EWC ..: 2 F 5  
CURRENT EEC ..: NOT CURRENTLY EARNING EEC  
NEXT PAROLE HEARING DATE: 00/00/0000

TOTAL GT DAYS EARNED .....: 000000  
TOTAL EARNED WORK CREDITS ...: 003216  
TOTAL EDUCATION CREDITS .....: 000000  
TOTAL EXTRA EARNED CREDITS ..: 000  
TOTAL SERVICE TIME EARNED ...: 009005

LABOR CREW/WORK PROG DATE: 99/99/9999  
LABOR CREW DISQ REASON:  
CATEGORY 4 OR 5 OFFENSE  
SUPERVISED REENTRY DATE...: 00/00/00  
SS.....:

PEKEYS: 5:HISTORY OF DATE CHANGES

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW COURT**

Ronald Ceo, #258464,	)	Docket No.: 23-ALJ-04-0003-AP
	)	[ <u>Grievance No.: MACCI 156-22</u> ]
Appellant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	<i>Hon. Deborah Brooks Durden</i>
	)	
South Carolina Department of Corrections,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	<b>RESPONDENT'S BRIEF</b>
_____	)	

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE**

This case is before the Administrative Law Court (“ALC”) pursuant to the appeal of Ronald Ceo (“Appellant”), an inmate incarcerated with the Department of Corrections (“SCDC”).

Appellant filed a Step One Grievance on September 9, 2022, requesting to have the community supervision program (“CSP”) removed from his sentence. Appellant alleged that neither his sentencing sheet nor transcript mentioned CSP and that requiring Appellant to complete CSP would be a due process violation. This grievance was investigated and denied on October 3, 2022. Thereafter, on October 4, 2022, Appellant filed a Step Two grievance again alleging that neither his sentencing sheet nor transcript indicate CSP as part of his sentence and alleged that requiring Appellant to complete CSP is a due process violation. This grievance was investigated and denied on November 30, 2022. Appellant subsequently filed his Notice of Appeal.

**JURISDICTION**

The ALC’s jurisdiction to hear this matter is derived entirely from the decision of the South Carolina Supreme Court in *Al-Shabazz v. State*, 338 S.C. 354, 527 S.E.2d 742 (2000). When reviewing SCDC’s decisions in inmate grievance matters, the ALC sits in an appellate capacity. *Id.* at 377, 527 S.E.2d at 754. Recently the South Carolina Supreme Court clarified the Administrative Law Court’s jurisdiction as:

[t]hat the ALC has subject matter jurisdiction over inmate grievance appeals that have properly filed. (*internal citations omitted*) . . . [h]owever, the ALC is not required to hold a hearing in every matter and may summarily dismiss an inmates grievance if does not implicate a state-created liberty or property interest sufficient to trigger procedural due process guarantees. The ALC may not grant an inmate relief from an erroneous administrative decision by SCDC, however, unless the inmate demonstrates the error deprived him of due process... (*internal citations omitted*)

*Allen vs. S.C. Dep't of Corr.*, ---S.E.2d ---, ---, 2023 WL 2778609 (S.C. 2023).

“The requirement of procedural due process apply only to the deprivation of interests encompassed by the Fourteenth Amendment’s protection of liberty and property.” *Al-Shabazz*, 338 S.C. at 369, 527 S.E.2d at 750 (*quoting Board of Regents of State Colleges. v. Roth*, 408 U.S. 564, 569, 92 S.Ct. 2701, 2705 (1972)).

In this case, appellant contends that SCDC has incorrectly calculated his sentence. Consequently, the ALC has jurisdiction to hear his appeal.

#### **STANDARD OF REVIEW**

A reviewing court will not disturb findings of an administrative agency if its findings are supported by substantial evidence on record as a whole. *Pearson v. JPS Converter & Industry Corp.*, 327 S.C. 393, 489 S.E.2d 219 (Ct. App. 1997). “Substantial evidence” is evidence which, considering record as a whole, would allow a reasonable mind to reach the conclusion reached by the administrative agency. *Hendley v. S.C. State Budget & Control Bd.*, 325 S.C. 413, 481 S.E.2d 159 (Ct. App. 1996). The possibility of drawing two inconsistent conclusions from the evidence does not prevent an administrative agency’s finding from being supported by substantial evidence. *Grant v. S.C. Coastal Council*, 319 S.C. 348, 461 S.E.2d 388 (1995). Administrative agencies are afforded wide latitude in making decisions, as shown in the deferential standard of appellate review. *Heater of Seabrook, Inc. v. Public Svc. Comm’n of S.C.*, 332 S.C. 20, 503 S.E.2d 739 (1998).

## ARGUMENT

### **I. THE COMMUNITY SUPERVISION PROGRAM IS STATUTORILY REQUIRED FOR ALL NO PAROLE OFFENSES.**

On May 25, 1999, Appellant plead guilty to Homicide by Child Abuse in violation of S.C. Code Ann. § 16-3-85 (A)(1) and sentenced to thirty-five years imprisonment. Rec. pp. 9-10. Because Appellant was sentenced to a “no parole offense,” he is statutorily required to complete the community supervision program (“CSP”) after his period of incarceration at SCDC is completed and the final agency decision should be affirmed. *See* Rec. p. 1.

The Code provides that “... any sentence for a ‘no parole offense’ as defined in Section 24-13-100 must include any term of incarceration and completion of a community supervision program operated by the Department of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services...” S.C. Code Ann. § 24-21-560 (A). Homicide by Child Abuse is a no parole offense. *See* S.C. Code Ann. § 24-13-100 (identifying “no parole offenses” as those offenses that are exempt from classification as enumerated in Section 16-1-10(d) and is punishable by twenty or more years); *see also* S.C. Code Ann. § 16-1-10 (D) (listing causing the death of a child pursuant to § 16-3-85 (C)(1) as exempt from classification”). Appellant plead guilty to homicide by child abuse in violation of section (A) (1) of § 16-3-85. Rec. p. 10. The penalty portion for section (A) (1) of § 16-3-85 is found in subsection (C)(1) and states, “[h]omicide by child abuse is a felony and a person who is convicted of or pleads guilty to homicide by child abuse: (1) under subsection (A)(1) may be imprisoned for life but not less than a term of twenty years. ...” *See* S.C. Code Ann. § 16-3-85 (C)(1). Therefore, Appellant’s sentence for homicide by child abuse is a no parole offense. Because Appellant’s conviction is for a “no parole offense” Appellant is statutorily required to complete the CSP upon completion of incarcerative portion of his sentence. *See* S.C. Code Ann. § 24-21-560 (A).

CSP is statutorily required because Appellant's sentence is a "no parole offense," and it does not matter that CSP was not mentioned during sentencing or on the sentencing sheet, SCDC has no control over Appellant's participation in the CSP. *See generally State v. Boggs*, 388 S.C. 314, 696 S.E.2d 597 (2010); *see also* Rec. p. 10. SCDC is confined to an unambiguous sentencing sheet, and Appellant's sentencing sheet unambiguously states that Appellant plead guilty to homicide by child abuse in violation of S.C. Code Ann. 16-3-85 (A)(1). *See* Rec. p. 10; *see also Tant v. S. Carolina Dep't of Corr.*, 408 S.C. 334, 759 S.E.2d 398 (2014), *reh'g denied* (July 10, 2014).

Lastly, SCDC's role in the CSP is miniscule. SCDC notifies the Department of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services of the projected release date of inmates serving a sentences for "no parole offenses" one hundred eighty (180) days in advance of the inmate's release to the CSP. *See* S.C. Code Ann. 24-21-560 (F). The Department of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services is responsible for the operation of the CSP. *See* S.C. Code Ann. 24-21-560 (A).

Because the substantial evidence supports the agency's final decision, the final agency decision should be affirmed. *See* Rec. pp. 1 & 10.

**II: APPELLANT FAILED TO PROVE THE AGENCY DETERMINATION THAT THE AGENCY DECISION IS CLEARLY ERRONEOUS, ARBITRARY OR CAPRICIOUS, OR AN ABUSE OF DISCRETION.**

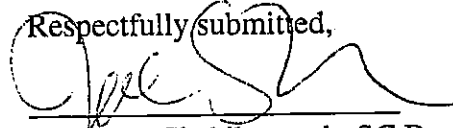
The record conclusively establishes that the "substantial evidence on the whole record" supports the Department's final agency decision. Appellant has the burden of proving that the decision of the Department is clearly erroneous, or arbitrary or capricious, or an abuse of discretion. *See Porter v. Public Service Comm'n*, 333 S.C. 12, 507 S.E.2d 328 (1998). Appellant has not met this burden.

**CONCLUSION AND SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW**

**CONCLUSION**

For the foregoing reasons, SCDC respectfully requests this Court affirm SCDC's final agency decision.

Respectfully submitted,



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May 18, 2023  
Columbia, South Carolina

ORIGINAL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ) IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS  
COUNTY OF MARION ) 99-GS-33-09

THE STATE,

-vs-

RONALD CEO,

Defendant.

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD

May 24, 1999  
Marion, South Carolina

B E F O R E:

THE HONORABLE JAMES R. BARBER III, Judge.

A P P E A R A N C E S:

ROBERT N. WELLS, JR., Esquire  
Deputy Solicitor for the Twelfth Judicial Circuit  
Attorney for the State

WILLIAM S. DERRICK, Esquire  
Public Defender for Marion County  
Attorney for the Defendant

PATRICIA A. McDANIEL  
Circuit Court Reporter

1 TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1999

2 [WHEREUPON, at 3:32 p.m.,  
3 this matter was called for a guilty plea, with the  
4 Defendant and counsel present in the courtroom.]

5 MR. WELLS: May it please the Court? This is  
6 indictment 99-GS-9, the State versus Kimera Ceo and  
7 Ronald Ceo.

8 Kimera Ceo, who is the mother of the child in  
9 question, sits over here. We still have some  
10 outstanding charges on her, concerning failure to  
11 report, we'll take up at a later time after this plea.

12 At this time, Your Honor, Ronald Ceo comes forward  
13 to plead guilty to count one, homicide by child abuse,  
14 which carries a minimum sentence of twenty (20) years  
15 and a maximum sentence of life. Counts two, three, and  
16 four will be dismissed on him on his plea to that  
17 charge.

18 He's represented by Bill Derrick.

19 [WHEREUPON, at this time,  
20 the Court and attorneys conferred concerning another  
21 matter.]

22 THE COURT: Before we get into that, do you mind if  
23 I deal with her---

24 MR. WELLS: No problem.

25 THE COURT: ---and then send her on they way.

1 past?

2 DEFENDANT CEO: Your Honor, before this incident, I  
3 was employed.

4 THE COURT: Where were you working?.

5 DEFENDANT CEO: I was working at Purdue. Before  
6 graduation, I enlisted in the United States Marine  
7 Corps.

8 THE COURT: All right. When you say before  
9 graduation, while you were in high school, you enlisted  
10 in the Marine Corps?

11 DEFENDANT CEO: Yes, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: And how come you never went in the  
13 Marine Corps?

14 DEFENDANT CEO: Oh, I did.

15 THE COURT: You did go in the Marine Corps?

16 DEFENDANT CEO: Yes, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: And how come -- And how long were you  
18 in the Marines?

19 DEFENDANT CEO: Two and a half years.

20 THE COURT: Did you get an honorable discharge?

21 DEFENDANT CEO: Yes, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Well, why did you leave at the end of  
23 two and a half years?

24 DEFENDANT CEO: Your Honor, the situation that I  
25 have -- that came up, I went U.A. under Article Eight.

1 that?

2 DEFENDANT CEO: Yes, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Do you understand that you can get up  
4 to what? Is it life in prison?

5 MR. WELLS: That's correct. Twenty (20) years to  
6 life.

7 THE COURT: And do you understand that?

8 DEFENDANT CEO: Yes, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: So life with -- This would not be -- Is  
10 this life without parole? It doesn't say life without  
11 parole. But life is life now?

12 MR. WELLS: That's my understanding.

13 THE COURT: And it's an eighty-five (85%)  
14 percenter?

15 MR. WELLS: Yes, sir.

16 THE COURT: All right. So you understand that you  
17 could get up to life in prison?

18 DEFENDANT CEO: Yes, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: And you got to get at least twenty (20)  
20 years. Do you understand that?

21 DEFENDANT CEO: Yes, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: And you got to get -- This is  
23 considered a most serious offense. Do you understand  
24 that?

25 DEFENDANT CEO: Yes, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: Done everything you want him to do?

2 DEFENDANT CEO: Yes, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: All right. Satisfied with his  
4 services?

5 DEFENDANT CEO: Yes, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Anything further you want to ask him  
7 here today?

8 DEFENDANT CEO: No, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Anything further you want to request  
10 that he do?

11 DEFENDANT CEO: No, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Derrick, you've heard  
13 your client say he wishes to go forward with a guilty  
14 plea. You heard him say he understands the charge  
15 against him, understands the penalty. Do you believe he  
16 does?

17 MR. DERRICK: Yes, sir.

18 THE COURT: Understands the ramifications of the  
19 penalty as being an eighty-five (85%) per cent offense,  
20 as being potential life in prison, as being a most  
21 serious offense.

22 MR. DERRICK: After numerous discussions, lengthy  
23 discussions with him, I'm -- I feel confident he  
24 understands that, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: So you've discussed that thoroughly

1 jury trial in which twelve citizens of this county would  
2 hear the evidence and determine whether they think  
3 you're guilty or not? But you give that right up to a  
4 jury trial when you plead guilty. Do you understand?

5 **DEFENDANT CEO:** Yes, Your Honor.

6 **THE COURT:** And do you understand when you plead  
7 guilty you also give up your constitutional right to  
8 confront any witnesses the State may have?

9 **DEFENDANT CEO:** Yes, Your Honor.

10 **THE COURT:** And when you plead guilty, you give up  
11 your right to remain silent under the Constitution of  
12 the United States and of the Constitution of the State  
13 of South Carolina. You don't have to say anything. You  
14 don't have to participate in a trial; you don't have to  
15 testify; you don't have to help the State in any way.  
16 But when you plead guilty, you give up your right to  
17 remain silent. Do you understand?

18 **DEFENDANT CEO:** Yes, Your Honor.

19 **THE COURT:** Now, other than the State's willingness  
20 to not prosecute on counts two, three, and four of the  
21 indictment, has the State offered or promised you  
22 anything to get you to plead guilty?

23 **DEFENDANT CEO:** No, Your Honor.

24 **THE COURT:** Has anyone else offered or promised you  
25 anything to get you to plead guilty?

1 Solicitor's Office?

2 DEFENDANT CEO: No, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Do you have any complaints with law  
4 enforcement?

5 DEFENDANT CEO: No, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Do you have any complaints with people  
7 at the jail?

8 DEFENDANT CEO: No, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: How long have you been in jail?

10 DEFENDANT CEO: Fourteen months, Your Honor.

11 MR. DERRICK: Ever since the incident happened.

12 THE COURT: Since April of 1998?

13 DEFENDANT CEO: Yes, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: April 1 of 1998. All right. Do you  
15 understand when I sentence you here today, Mr. Ceo,  
16 you'll have ten (10) days to appeal the sentence?

17 DEFENDANT CEO: Yes, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Ceo, as to indictment  
19 99-GS-33-9, count one, which says that you did, in  
20 Marion County, South Carolina, on or about April 1,  
21 1998, violate Section 16-3-85 of the Code of Laws of  
22 South Carolina, as amended, in that you did cause the  
23 death of a child under the age of eleven (11); to-wit,  
24 Ronquaevei Chisolm, age fourteen (14) months, while  
25 committing child abuse or neglect as defined in Section

1           MR. WELLS: ---the Court? The lady sitting here --  
2           [While indicating] This is Kimera Ceo who is the mother  
3           of the child, and she is also indicted for failure to  
4           report some of the stuff.

5           [While indicating] And this is in turn her mother,  
6           which is Ms. Constance McNeal, who is the grandmother of  
7           the child.

8           Is that correct?

9           MS. McNEAL: Yes, sir.

10          MR. WELLS: As I understand in talking with Ms.  
11          Ceo, she'd indicated that the child's name was  
12          Ronquaevei Chisolm, which she said Chisolm was actually  
13          her maiden name; but she said she is the mother and the  
14          Defendant is the father of the child, which she is now  
15          going by Ce---

16          THE COURT: Now -- Now, tell me that again.

17          MR. WELLS: What I'm saying is, even -- the child  
18          was using the last name Chisolm, which was her maiden  
19          name, even though this is the father of the child. And  
20          she now is using the name Ceo as far as herself is  
21          concerned.

22          THE COURT: Are they married?

23          MR. WELLS: I don't know.

24          Did you ever get married, or is it just common law?

25          MS. CEO: Married.

1           Rescue squad members then arrived. They worked on  
2 the child, transported the child to Marion County  
3 Medical Center. At the Emergency Room there of the  
4 hospital, the doctors reported the child came in  
5 unresponsive with a core body temperature of eighty-six-  
6 point-two (86.2) degrees. The doctor also noted that  
7 the baby had a bruise on the left side of the head which  
8 appeared to be at least two days old. They worked on  
9 the baby for about an hour and pronounced the baby dead  
10 at eight-forty (8:40) p.m.

11           They also observed and then called in the Mullins  
12 Police Department investigator to show that the child  
13 had several bruises on his body, including what appeared  
14 to be healed up cigarette burns.

15           The law enforcement also found, at the same time,  
16 that there was another child who was only four months  
17 old, Rontea Ceo, who was also in the hospital at that  
18 time and appeared that he may have been abused. So as a  
19 result of that, immediately D.S.S. was called in to take  
20 custody of that child as well as another child, J. J.,  
21 that Ms. Ceo had.

22           Ronquaevei, the child that was killed, was taken to  
23 the Charleston University of South Carolina Office of  
24 Pathology where Dr. Conradi was in charge of an autopsy  
25 of the baby. She found there were several healed-up

1 different statement in which he said on the date that  
2 this occurred he was at home with the children, taking  
3 care of them, that being Ronquaevei and J. J., while, I  
4 believe, his wife went to work.

5 He said that what got him upset on that particular  
6 night, that a man called on his phone and wanted to  
7 speak to his wife. He said that when the male heard his  
8 voice that the male hung up, and he said then the male  
9 called back again and cursed him out. He said that that  
10 got -- got him mad. He said he kind of went into some  
11 kind of trance and was acting on -- on the anger he was  
12 feeling because of the phone. And he said he just  
13 grabbed Ronquaevei and shook him for about a minute,  
14 until he said that the child went unconscious and  
15 stopped breathing. He said that he then tried to revive  
16 the child by use of C.P.R., and he couldn't. And so at  
17 that point, he called the rescue squad.

18 The Mullins Police Department incident report shows  
19 that Ms. Ceo had reported abuse to her but not her  
20 children on three different occasions, once in 1997 and  
21 twice in 1998; but on none of those occasions did she  
22 then go through with pressing charges against her  
23 husband.

24 The Defendant's only other prior record that I'm  
25 aware of was in Magistrate's Court in 1997 for

1 anyone. Whether or not the call, he was involved in a  
2 domestic matter with his wife, I'm -- I -- I don't know.  
3 I'm excluding those. But no crimes has he -- has he  
4 pled to that I'm aware of. He's -- He -- He is -- Up  
5 until this incident that was -- of course, is before the  
6 Court today, he has no -- no criminal record. He could  
7 be as spick and span as anybody walking out on the  
8 street today.

9 We don't know what goes on in families unless we're  
10 a member of that family. When children are -- When  
11 parents are under stress -- And I'm not trying to make  
12 excuses for Mr. Ceo. But when parents become under  
13 stress because of different things, money, finances,  
14 other people as he tells in this instance with the  
15 calls, sometimes you -- you -- you react instead of  
16 thinking. And I'm firmly convinced that Mr. Ceo  
17 reacted. I mean, by that, certainly he didn't think  
18 logically like any cool-headed adult would.

19 He tells me he was giving the kids a bath. The  
20 baby was -- was -- was -- The child was without clothes.

21 The calls -- He was trying to cook some supper for  
22 the other kids, I think, or prepare something in the  
23 kitchen. The phone was ringing. This man was calling.  
24 He would answer it up, click, and then calls back; and  
25 they -- the man cusses at him; and it's all about his

1 can picture a situation where, if adrenaline is flowing  
2 in a situation where your child's not alive anymore or  
3 you don't think he is, if you try to push on a child to  
4 get them to breath like the old C.P.R. rather than  
5 breathing in the mouth, you know, you can use -- exert a  
6 lot of force when you don't realize you're exerting  
7 force.

8 And -- And I think a lot of -- a lot of his good  
9 intentions might have gone astray in the sense that --  
10 And at least, it -- it didn't help the child become  
11 alive again. It more hindered the child from coming  
12 alive. And I think the pressure could have been some of  
13 the trauma that the child experienced as found in the  
14 autopsy. I -- I -- I'm not trying to say it was all,  
15 and -- but -- and I do know that violent shaking -- I  
16 think the autopsy report reveals that that had more to  
17 do, I think -- Or the -- the -- the death was caused by  
18 an incident such as that type of activity.

19 Your Honor, it's -- it's -- I know in this kind of  
20 situation when a parent realizes that they've made such  
21 a tragic mistake you would automatically think about  
22 remorse. I have never seen anybody more remorseful than  
23 Ronald. He has talked to me privately five times at  
24 least, or six times, in which he -- he talked half the  
25 time about his kids.

1 he gets twenty (20) years, he'll be out in thirty-eight  
2 (38). If he gets thirty (30) years, he'll be out in  
3 thirty-seven (37). And if he gets -- Well, maybe that  
4 wouldn't be right either. I figured it up. In any way,  
5 twenty-five (25) years, I think he'd be about forty-two  
6 (42). I -- It bounces all around.

7 He won't see his kid that is alive much at all. He  
8 won't have the ability to rectify or redeem himself with  
9 his wife with his other kid, even if he could, because  
10 the State of South Carolina is going to have him.

11 It's terrible, but how much should he be punished.  
12 I -- I can't honestly see life imprisonment being the  
13 correct punishment. I can't see fifty (50) years being  
14 the correct punishment. And maybe twenty (20) years is  
15 not enough. But how much more than twenty (20) is going  
16 to learn him any more of a lesson than twenty (20) is  
17 going to learn him.

18 If the Court will bear with me?

19 The personal background, Your Honor, he gave it to  
20 me just today 'cause we've been so concerned about the  
21 case. And I haven't had a chance to really go over some  
22 of his background as far as prior to today, but he and I  
23 wrote it down. If I can get all my paperwork.

24 Your Honor, he is twenty-two (22) years of age and  
25 has graduated in '95 from high school. He was in the

1 son, Your Honor. It was just a freak accident. Your  
2 Honor, it wasn't malice or premeditated. I suffer  
3 dearly every day since it happen because I have to live  
4 with it for the rest of my life.

5 Your Honor, my son been deceased for over a year  
6 now. It ain't nothing we can do to bring him back. If  
7 I could, I would. But I'm not trying to play God. I  
8 believe my son is in a better place now.

9 I never been in trouble with the law or ever been  
10 convicted of a felony, Your Honor. I ask for leniency,  
11 Your Honor, because the mistake that I made. The  
12 mitigation of this, Your Honor, is that it was a  
13 terrible mistake, something that happen on the spare  
14 [sic] of the moment. Extenuation of this, Your Honor,  
15 is that I suffer dearly because I have to -- I live to  
16 regret what happen and that I'm away from my wife and  
17 two other kids and the rest of my family who I dearly  
18 miss.

19 Your Honor, before you pass judgment, please hear  
20 my plea. Please consider it was an accident. Again,  
21 Your Honor, I live to regret everything that happen.

22 **THE COURT:** Anything else, Mr. Derrick?

23 **MR. DERRICK:** Nothing, Your Honor. His mother was  
24 working and couldn't be here. Some other family members  
25 wanted to, but we couldn't arrange it, Your Honor.

1 control to parent this child, and you did something  
2 horrible.

3 And putting you in jail for the rest of your life  
4 is not going to bring your son back, so I'm not going to  
5 do that. But what is appropriate, I don't have any  
6 idea. You know, I've had people shoot and kill adults,  
7 acting out of a fit of rage, and gotten forty-three (43)  
8 years, forty-five (45) years. Now, you've taken a child  
9 who's fourteen months old. I assume this child could  
10 walk, but clearly was defenseless, had no ability to  
11 stop you from hurting that child when you did.

12 So it isn't a matter of teaching you a lesson.  
13 It's a matter of you now being punished for what you  
14 did.

15 [Pause.]

16 **THE COURT:** The sentence of this Court, you be  
17 committed to the Department of Corrections for a term of  
18 thirty-five (35) years. You will be given credit for  
19 four hundred and twenty (420) days.

20 Good luck to you.

21  
22 [WHEREUPON, at 4:10 p.m.,  
23 this matter was concluded.]  
24

25 \*\*\*\*\*END OF REQUESTED TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD\*\*\*\*\*

RECEIVED

NOV 27 2023

SC Court of Appeals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In The Court of Appeals

Appeal from the Administrative Law Court  
Deborah B. Durden, Administrative Law Judge  
Appellate Case No. 2023-001384

Ronald Ceo, #258464,

Appellant,

v.

South Carolina Department of Corrections, Respondent.

CERTIFICATE OF COUNSEL

The undersigned hereby certifies that the Record on Appeal contains all material proposed to be included by any of the parties and not any other material.

November 9, 2023

Ronald Ceo

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