

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In the Appellate Court

APPEAL FROM GREENVILLE COUNTY
Court of General Sessions

R. Scott Sprouse, Circuit Court Judge

Case No(s): 2020GS2300021 (2 Counts)

The State,

Respondent.

v.

Nikia Jovon Allen,

Appellant.

MAR 04 2024

NOTICE OF APPEAL

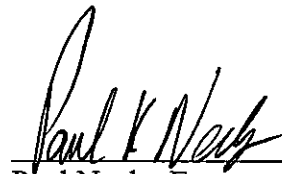
SC Court of Appeals

Nikia Jovon Allen appeals his conviction and sentence in this case. The sentence was imposed by the Honorable R. Scott Sprouse on February 21, 2024.

Defendant would show that his guilty plea was defective or that his sentence was unreasonable. Defendant raised no objections at the time of the guilty plea. Undersigned counsel is aware of no reasons for overturning the plea or the sentence, however Defendant has communicated to counsel that he desires an appeal.

Counsel is filing this appeal pursuant to his ethical duty to his client, and Defendant's constitutional right to appeal. Frazer v. South Carolina, 430 f. 3d 696, 706 (4th Cir. 2005 ("A Defendant has the right to pursue a direct appeal, even if frivolous, which counsel must assist as 'an advocate on behalf of his client.'"))

Date: February 28, 2024



Paul Neely, Esq.
305 East North Street, Suite 123
Greenville, SC 29601
Attorney for Appellant

Other Counsel of Record:
Marcus Smith, Attorney for Respondant

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Brice Garrett COC GUL SC

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Appellant.

PROOF OF SERVICE

I certify that I have served the Notice of Appeal on the below listed respondents by depositing a copy of it in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, on February 28, 2024, addressed to:

Walt Wilkins
13th Circuit Solicitor
305 E. North Street
Suite 325
Greenville, SC 29601-2185

Alan Wilson, Esq.
Attorney General
P.O. Box 11549
Columbia, SC 29211

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SC Court of Appeals

Date: February 28, 2024



Paul Neely, Esq.
305 East North Street, Suite 123
Greenville, SC 29601
Attorney for Appellant



13TH CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER

Mindy Hervey Lipinski, CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER

Greenville Public Defender Office
Greenville County Courthouse
305 East North Street, Suite 123
Greenville, SC 29601 | (864) 467-8522

Greenville Juvenile and Magistrate Office
Greenville County Family Court Complex
350 Halton Road, Suite 300
Greenville, SC 29607 | (864) 467-8330

Pickens Public Defender Office
Pickens County Courthouse
214 East Main Street, Suite 310
Pickens, SC 29671 | (864) 467-8025

February 28, 2024

Via Regular Mail

The Honorable Jenny Abbott Kitchings
Clerk, The S.C. Court of Appeals
Post Office Box 11629
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

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MAR 04 2024
SC Court of Appeals

Re: *State v. Nikia Jovon Allen*
Case No(s): 2020GS2300021 (2 Counts)

Dear Ms. Kitchings:

Enclosed you will find the original Notice of Appeal in the above matter along with Proof of Service upon the Respondents. The Notice has been filed with the Greenville County Clerk of Court. Also enclosed is a copy of the indictment. These matters are being referred to the Office of Appellate Defense in that we were participating as Court appointed counsel at trial.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,

GREENVILLE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER

By: *Paul K. Neely*
Paul Neely, Esq.

305 East North Street, Suite 123
Greenville, SC 29601
Attorney for Appellant

Enclosure(s)

Notice of Appeal
Certified Indictment(s)
Proof of Service

cc: Office of the Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor
Office of the Attorney General
Office of Appellate Defense

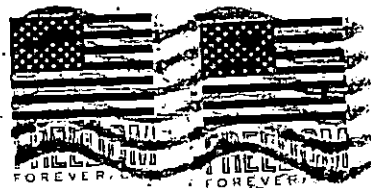


13th Circuit Public Defender

Greenville County Courthouse
305 E. North Street, Suite 123
Greenville, SC 29601

GREENVILLE SC 296

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MAR 04 2024

SC Court of Appeals

The Honorable Jenny Abbott Kitchings
Clerk, The S.C. Court of Appeals
Post Office Box 11629
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

29211-162929

