

March 19, 2024

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

RECEIVED**Mar 19 2024****S.C. SUPREME COURT**

Re: *John Richard Wood v. State of South Carolina*
No. 2022-CP-23-06219

Dear Ms. Howard:

Pursuant to *In re Stays of Execution in Capital Cases*, 321 S.C. 544, 471 S.E.2d 140 (1996), and the Court's order dated November 17, 2022, I am writing to report on the status of the above-referenced capital post-conviction relief case.

Mr. Wood's pre-hearing litigation is ongoing. The case had been stayed during the pendency of the *Owens v. Stirling*, No. 2022-001280. Although the *Owens* litigation is ongoing, the parties and Judge Knie agreed the issue of the proper procedures for seeking funding for expert and investigative services could be resolved. The parties completed briefing on the issue on November 20, 2023, which remains pending.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,



Lindsey S. Vann

cc: Melody Brown, Esq. (via email)
Judge Grace Knie (via email)