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**SC Court of Appeals**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

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Appeal from Florence County  
Court of Common Pleas

The Honorable Clifton B. Newman, Circuit Court  
Judge for Common Pleas

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Appellate Case No.: 2023-001842

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Dorthea Ryles .....Appellant,

v.

Leon Ryles, Willie N. Ryles, and Theresa Williams, Respondents ..... Respondents.  
IN RE: The Estate of Edith W. Ryles, Estate File: 2018-Es-21-00899

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**APPELLANT'S FINAL REPLY TO FINAL  
BRIEF OF RESPONDENT**

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The Appellant filed the Initial Brief of the Appellant on February 24, 2024 with the South Carolina Court of Appeals. In the Initial Brief of the Appellant, the Appellant argued the following:

- I. Did the Circuit Court err in its discretion in agreeing with the allowance and support of the testimony of lay witnesses to give expert opinion as to the confusion of the decedent at the time of the signing of the Last Will and Testament and Power of Attorney?**
- II. Did the Circuit Court err in finding that the Decedent lacked the testamentary capacity to execute the Last Will and Testament and Power of Attorney, although the Decedent had actual knowledge of the nature and extent of her estate, the nature objects of her bounty, and to whom she wished to give her property to?**
- III. Did the Circuit Court err in ruling that undue influence existed between the decedent and Appellant?**
- IV. Did the Circuit Court err in its ruling in finding that the Appellant breached her fiduciary duty and in awarding the full amount of damages be reimbursed to the Estate?**

The Respondent then filed their Initial Brief of Respondents on April 16, 2024. However, the Respondent's brief is the exact same brief previously filed (R. Page 109-138) in Common Pleas. In the Respondents Brief, he argues against the initial arguments addressed in the lower court, due to it being the same document, but does not however address the Arguments listed in the Initial Brief of the Appellant filed in the South Carolina Court of Appeals.

The Respondent does not specifically argue or provide any new information nor retaliatory arguments against the arguments in this current appeal, except to state his previously argued

arguments against the Initial Brief of the Appellant filed in the lower court.

### CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Appellant respectfully submits that this Court should reverse the Probate Court's Order, hold that the Power of Attorney of Edith Ryles and the Last Will and Testament of Edith Ryles are valid, and reduce the amount of damages owed to the heirs of the estate.

Respectfully submitted,

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May 30, 2024

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**RULE 211 CERTIFICATION**

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The undersigned hereby acknowledges that the Final Brief of Appellant and Appellant's Final Reply to Final Brief of Respondent complies with Rule 211 SCACR.



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May 30, 2024  
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