

The Supreme Court of South Carolina

The State, Respondent,

v.

Freddie Eugene Owens, Appellant.

Appellate Case No. 2024-001397

ORDER

On August 14, 2024, Appellant executed a Durable Power of Attorney (POA) authorizing one of his attorneys, Emily Paavola, to elect the method of his execution.¹ Paavola recorded the POA with the Richland County Register of Deeds on August 26, 2024.

Because an execution notice has been issued, Director Bryan Stirling of the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) now asks this Court for a judicial determination of the validity of the POA and instructions regarding service of the election form if the document is determined to be valid.

We hold the POA in this matter is valid and must be accepted by SCDC.

We deny the State's suggestion to hold a hearing on Appellant's understanding of the effect of his election.



C.J.



J.



J.

¹ Appellant's legal name is now Khalil Divine Black Sun Allah, and this is the name on the power of attorney.

D. Hamilton

J.

Verdin, J., not participating

Columbia, South Carolina
September 3, 2024

cc:

Emily C. Paavola

Alan McCrory Wilson

Melody Jane Brown

Donald J. Zelenka

Salley Wood Elliott

Gabrielle Amber Pittman

Gerald King

Joshua Snow Kendrick