



ALAN WILSON  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

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S.C. SUPREME COURT

September 18, 2024

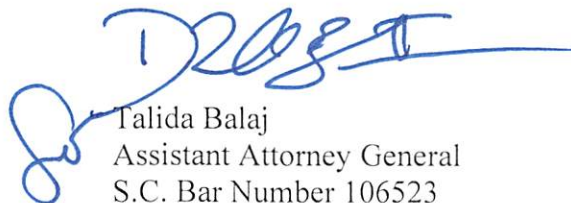
The Honorable Patricia A. Howard  
Supreme Court of South Carolina  
Post Office Box 11330  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
(via e-filing only - [suptfilings@sccourts.org](mailto:suptfilings@sccourts.org))

**RE: Derek W. Gibson v. State of South Carolina**  
**2024-001408**

Dear Ms. Howard:

Our office has been in possession of the transcript from the post-conviction relief hearing in this case from the date the notice of appeal was filed, August 27, 2024. Because the Office of Appellate Defense has confirmed they are representing Respondent in this matter, I have calendared the State's Petition for Writ of Certiorari and Appendix to be filed and served on October 28, 2024, which is sixty days from the date of the State's notice of appeal. If this date is incorrect or inconsistent with your records, please let me know. Thank you, and, if you have any questions or concerns or need any additional information, please just let me know.

Sincerely,

  
Talida Balaj  
Assistant Attorney General  
S.C. Bar Number 106523

TB/cc

cc: Susannah C. Ross, Esquire (via electronic mail)  
Robert M. Dudek, Esquire (via electronic mail)  
Victim Advocacy Division

**From:** [Dudek, Robert](#)  
**To:** [Caroline Collins](#)  
**Cc:** [White, Della](#); [Warren, Kaylynn](#); [Susannah Ross](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [External] RE: Derek Gibson v. State of South Carolina (2024-001408)  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 18, 2024 4:27:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Caroline: Yes, we are taking the case because Susannah was appointed counsel. Thanks –

Bob

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**From:** Caroline Collins <CCollins@scag.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 18, 2024 3:54 PM  
**To:** Dudek, Robert <RDudek@sccid.sc.gov>  
**Cc:** Warren, Kaylynn <kwarren@sccid.sc.gov>  
**Subject:** [External] RE: Derek Gibson v. State of South Carolina (2024-001408)

Good Afternoon Mr. Dudek,

I just wanted to check-in regarding the below case. Ms. Ross said in an email yesterday that she does plan to let your office handle it, but I didn't want to mention that in my letter regarding the transcripts/our timeline for the petition for writ of certiorari, without you guys first having the opportunity to confirm it.

Thank you so much!

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**From:** Caroline Collins  
**Sent:** Monday, September 16, 2024 5:10 PM  
**To:** Robert M. Dudek ([RDudek@sccid.sc.gov](mailto:RDudek@sccid.sc.gov)) <[RDudek@sccid.sc.gov](mailto:RDudek@sccid.sc.gov)>  
**Cc:** Warren, Kaylynn <[kwarren@sccid.sc.gov](mailto:kwarren@sccid.sc.gov)>; [susannah@rossenderlin.com](mailto:susannah@rossenderlin.com); Talida Balaj <[TalidaBalaj@scag.gov](mailto:TalidaBalaj@scag.gov)>; Russ Barlow <[RussBarlow@scag.gov](mailto:RussBarlow@scag.gov)>  
**Subject:** Derek Gibson v. State of South Carolina (2024-001408)

Good Afternoon Mr. Dudek,

It has been brought to my attention that Ms. Susannah Ross is listed as counsel of record on [c-track](#) (link provided) in [Derek Gibson v. State of South Carolina](#), where the State is appealing an Order Granting Post-Conviction Relief and Order Denying the State's 59(e). When I spoke with Ms. Ross earlier today, she confirmed that, absent a conflict of interest, your office traditionally handles her circuit cases that proceed on appeal. Would you or one of your staff be so kind as to review the attached documents and let me know if your office plans to represent Mr. Gibson on appeal?

Thank you so much,

**CAROLINE COLLINS**, Administrative Support Manager  
South Carolina Attorney General's Office  
Criminal Appeals | Office 803-734-3723 | [ccollins@scag.gov](mailto:ccollins@scag.gov)  
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