



**HHP LAW GROUP**

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September 20, 2024

Via Email

The Honorable Jenny Abbott Kitchings  
Clerk of Court  
South Carolina Court of Appeals  
Email: ctappfilings@sccourts.org

**RECEIVED**

**Sep 20 2024**

**SC Court of Appeals**

Re: Cassiopia Rhoads v. Aiken County Sheriff's Office  
Appellate Case No. 2024-000592  
Civil Action No.: 2020-CP-02-02238  
Status/Procedural Update

Dear Ms. Kitchings,

Please allow this correspondence to provide the Court of Appeals with a status/procedural update on the above-referenced case.

As my prior letter relayed, back on August 19, 2024, Judge Griffith issued an *Order Granting Defendant's Motion to Alter or Amend Order and JNOV Motion*, thereby granting the Aiken County Sheriff's Office's motion for reconsideration, issuing a JNOV, and vacating the jury's verdict. On August 29<sup>th</sup>, Cassiopia Rhoads filed a Rule 59(e) motion for reconsideration of that new order. Yesterday afternoon, Judge Griffith's decision was issued, and although it is entitled "Order Denying Defendant's Motion to Reconsider," from the contents of the order, it appears that he denied the Plaintiff's motion for reconsideration. A copy of that order is attached.

The transcript of the trial (held October 9-13, 2023) has been ordered and received.

The transcript of the hearing on the post-trial motions was held on June 13, 2024. A transcript of that hearing was ordered on July 15, 2024, but, to date, it has not been received. For your records, a copy of the transcript order form is attached. It is my understanding that the assigned court reporter, Krystal J. Smith, has been given an extension, until October 17, 2024, to complete the transcript. A copy of the Notice granting that request is also attached.

By copy of this letter, I am serving a copy of this correspondence on all counsel of record, by email, pursuant to Section (d)(1) of the Supreme Court's *Order Methods of Electronic Filing and Service Under Rule 262 of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules* (As Amended April 24, 2024).

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to give my office a call.

With kind regards, I remain,

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Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francis M. Hinson IV". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "F" and "H".

Francis M. "Brink" Hinson, IV

Enclosures: Circuit Court Order, dated Sept. 19, 2024  
Hearing Transcript Order Form, submitted July 15, 2024  
Notice of Extension on Transcript Preparation, dated Sept. 16, 2024

cc: Andrew F. Lindemann, Esq. (*via email at andrew@ldlawsc.com*)  
Patrick J. McLaughlin, Esq. (*via email at patrick@wukelalaw.com*)