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Dec 13 2024

SC Court of Appeals

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In the Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM SPARTANBURG COUNTY
Court of Common Pleas
J. Mark Hayes, II, Circuit Court Judge

C.A. No. 2017-CP-42-00219

Appellate Case No. 2024-001546

Jo Ann Blackwell, Michelene Brooks, and Samuel H. Owens, Jr., individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, Respondents,

v.

Mary Black Health System, LLC, d/b/a Mary Black Memorial Hospital; CHSPSC, LLC; and Professional Account Services, Inc., Appellants.

RESPONSE TO APPELLANTS' MOTION TO HOLD APPEAL IN ABEYANCE

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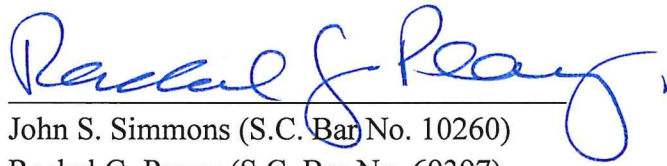
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Respondents respectfully submit this Response to Appellants' Motion to Hold Appeal in Abeyance.

As an initial matter, Respondents defer to the Court's discretion and take no position as to whether abeyance of this appeal is appropriate or necessary. However, Respondents specifically object to, and disagree with, Appellants' arguments and characterization of the record and posture of the case below, including their argument concerning the trial court's retention of jurisdiction over matters not affected by their prior appeal.¹ In addition, Respondents note their objection to Appellants' characterization of the Court's decision in the prior appeal, *Blackwell v. Mary Black Health Sys., LLC*, Op. No. 6088 (S.C. Ct. App. filed Sept. 18, 2024), and any purported conflict with any other decision of this Court, such opinion being the subject of Appellants' pending Petition for Rehearing and Suggestion for Rehearing *en banc*.²

Respectfully submitted,



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¹ Appellate Case No. 2020-001613.

² The Court has directed Respondents to file a Return to the Petition for Rehearing, with such deadline for the filing of the Return extended to December 16, 2024.

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Dated: December 13, 2024

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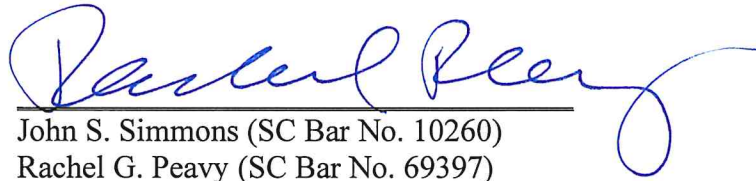
PROOF OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on December 13, 2024, Respondents' *Response to Appellants' Motion to Hold Appeal in Abeyance* was served on all counsel of record via email as follows:

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