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**RECEIVED**

**Dec 18 2024**

**SC Court of Appeals**

December 18, 2024

Honorable Catherine Harrison  
Deputy Clerk, South Carolina Court of Appeals  
P.O. Box 11629  
Columbia, SC 29211

RE: *Otis Owens v. Sheriff Michael Hunt*  
Appellate Case No. 2023-000009

Dear Ms. Harrison,

I'm writing in response to your December 11, 2024 letter regarding potential conflicts for oral argument in this matter. As to the proposed April 2025 dates, my co-counsel Josh Hawkins has a conflict with April 15, 2025. While there are currently no other conflicts, I have included an email my co-counsel received from Judge Keesley on October 30, 2024, notifying him that his case could be placed on the trial roster for the week of April 7- April 11, 2025, if another case settles. Because of this possibility, we thought it best to share this potential conflict with the Court.

Sincerely,

*s/Whitney B. Harrison*

Whitney B. Harrison



## Paralegal

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**From:** Paralegal  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 11, 2024 3:57 PM  
**To:** Paralegal  
**Subject:** McCormick Common Pleas

Please see below.



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**From:** "Keesley, William P." <[WKeesleyj@sccourts.org](mailto:WKeesleyj@sccourts.org)>  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at 11:34 AM  
**To:** "[williams.vannie@att.net](mailto:williams.vannie@att.net)" <[williams.vannie@att.net](mailto:williams.vannie@att.net)>, "[mcoulter@clarksonwalsh.com](mailto:mcoulter@clarksonwalsh.com)" <[mcoulter@clarksonwalsh.com](mailto:mcoulter@clarksonwalsh.com)>, "[carter@elliottphelanlaw.com](mailto:carter@elliottphelanlaw.com)" <[carter@elliottphelanlaw.com](mailto:carter@elliottphelanlaw.com)>, "[mark@peperlawfirm.com](mailto:mark@peperlawfirm.com)" <[mark@peperlawfirm.com](mailto:mark@peperlawfirm.com)>, "[brenna@peperlawfirm.com](mailto:brenna@peperlawfirm.com)" <[brenna@peperlawfirm.com](mailto:brenna@peperlawfirm.com)>, "[criser@richardsonplowden.com](mailto:criser@richardsonplowden.com)" <[criser@richardsonplowden.com](mailto:criser@richardsonplowden.com)>, Josh Hawkins <[josh@hjlsc.com](mailto:josh@hjlsc.com)>, Helena Jedziniak <[Helena@hjlsc.com](mailto:Helena@hjlsc.com)>, "[ddemasters@rplfirm.com](mailto:ddemasters@rplfirm.com)" <[ddemasters@rplfirm.com](mailto:ddemasters@rplfirm.com)>, Will Edwards <[will@mbmlawsc.com](mailto:will@mbmlawsc.com)>, Roy Hemphill <[rhemphill@mcdonaldpatrick.com](mailto:rhemphill@mcdonaldpatrick.com)>, "[trevor@theeddylawfirm.com](mailto:trevor@theeddylawfirm.com)" <[trevor@theeddylawfirm.com](mailto:trevor@theeddylawfirm.com)>, "J. McDade" <[jvmcdade@dotmlaw.com](mailto:jvmcdade@dotmlaw.com)>, "[will@maxeymcfarlandlaw.com](mailto:will@maxeymcfarlandlaw.com)" <[will@maxeymcfarlandlaw.com](mailto:will@maxeymcfarlandlaw.com)>, Russell Harter <[rwhjr@chhlaw.net](mailto:rwhjr@chhlaw.net)>, "[sam@greenvillelegal.com](mailto:sam@greenvillelegal.com)" <[sam@greenvillelegal.com](mailto:sam@greenvillelegal.com)>, "[w davidson@dml-law.com](mailto:w davidson@dml-law.com)" <[w davidson@dml-law.com](mailto:w davidson@dml-law.com)>  
**Cc:** "Chiles, Gwendolyn D." <[gchiles@mccormickcountysc.org](mailto:gchiles@mccormickcountysc.org)>, Buffey Hodges <[bhodges@mccormickcountysc.org](mailto:bhodges@mccormickcountysc.org)>, "Keesley, William P. Law Clerk (Samuel Kinard)" <[wkeesleylc@sccourts.org](mailto:wkeesleylc@sccourts.org)>  
**Subject:** McCormick Common Pleas

As you know, no cases are going forward on the November 4 term of Common Pleas jury trials roster for McCormick County. I am writing to you because you have cases on this roster and to alert you to the fact that there will probably be only two terms of civil jury trials in McCormick in 2025. I appreciate those of you who have responded to my law clerk's request for status updates.

The tentative schedule has McCormick's court during the week of April 7, 2025. I have already set a day certain for a medical negligence case that week, that case having been filed originally in 2020. If that case were to settle, continuance requests will likely be stringently reviewed. Please put that week on your calendar so that we can avoid as many conflicts as possible, and please get your mediations and motions completed. If you have a motion that needs to be heard, just contact my law clerk, Harrison Kinard, at the email address above, and we will get a hearing scheduled.

I do not have a tentative schedule for July – December of 2025. If we get a backlog in McCormick, I may look at asking to switch one of the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit non-jury terms to a McCormick Common Pleas jury term. Thank you. [wpk]

William P. Keesley  
Chief Judge for Administrative Purposes  
11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Common Pleas

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