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January 21, 2025

Honorable Patricia A. Howard
Clerk, South Carolina Supreme Court
Post Office Box 11330
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

RECEIVED

Jan 21 2025

S.C. SUPREME COURT

Re: Rishawn Lamar Reeder v. State of South Carolina
Appellate Case No. 2023-001459
Motion to Relieve Counsel

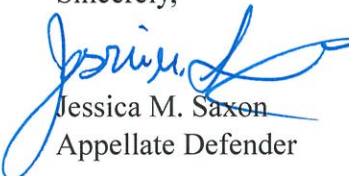
Dear Ms. Howard:

On January 16, 2025, this Court received Petitioner's *pro se* motion to relieve counsel. By email dated January 17, 2025, this Court forwarded the motion to relieve counsel to the undersigned and requested a response within ten days. The undersigned requests that the Court accept this letter as a response, in lieu of a formal reply.

As detailed by his motion to relieve counsel, Petitioner's displeasure stems from the decision not to raise certain issues to this Court in the Petition for Writ of Certiorari. It is the opinion of undersigned counsel that the issues Petitioner wanted raised on appeal were either not properly presented to the lower court for consideration, not properly preserved, and/or not addressed in the order of dismissal/order denying the motion pursuant to Rule 59(e), SCRPC. Therefore, those issues could not be raised to this Court on appeal. Additionally, some of the arguments that Petitioner wanted to advance on appeal lacked merit. The undersigned has not run afoul of any of the South Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct, as alleged in the motion.

Undersigned counsel does not have a position on Petitioner's motion to relieve counsel. As of the date of this letter, undersigned counsel has not advised Petitioner of the dangers of self-representation.

Sincerely,



Jessica M. Saxon
Appellate Defender

JMS/sl