

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In the Court of Appeals

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APPEAL FROM JASPER COUNTY  
Court of General Sessions

The Honorable Judge Robert J. Bonds, Circuit Court Judge

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Warrant No (s): 2023A2710200084, 2023A2710200085  
Indictment No (s): 2023GS2700215, 2023GS2700216

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

Respondent.

v.

John Steven Reynovel Metzler,

Appellant.

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**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

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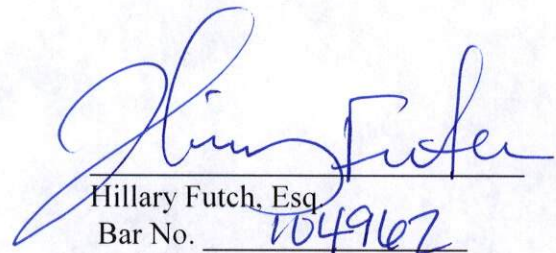
John Steven Reynovel Metzler appeals his trial, conviction and sentence on the charge(s) of Sex / Criminal Sexual Conduct - First Degree; Kidnapping / Kidnapping before the Honorable Judge Robert J. Bonds, Presiding Judge, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit; and John Steven Reynovel Metzler appeals the Denial of his Motion for Direct Verdict and Motion for a New Trial on February 20th, 2025 before the Honorable Judge Robert J. Bonds, Presiding Judge, Fourteenth Judicial Circuit in this case.

[SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW]

February 27, 2025

FILED - GS  
2025 FEB-27 PM02:33  
JASPER COUNTY, SC  
CLERK OF COURT  
R. KEITH HORTON

RECEIVED  
MAR 04 2025  
SC Court of Appeals



Hillary Futch, Esq.

Bar No. 104962

Assistant Public Defender

Post Office Box 689

Ridgeland, SC 29936

Attorney for Appellant

Other Counsel of Record:

Hunter Swanson, Esq.

Assistant Solicitor, 14th Judicial Circuit

Post Office Box 1880

Bluffton, SC 29910

Attorney for Respondent

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**PROOF OF SERVICE**

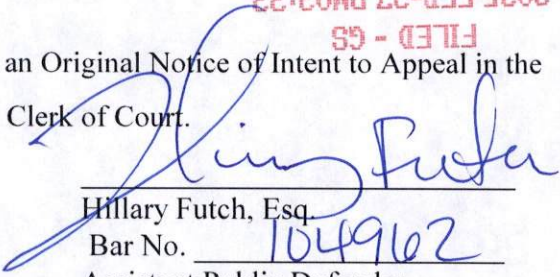
I certify that I have served the Notice of Appeal on the below listed respondents by depositing a copy of it in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, on February 27, 2025.

Hunter Swanson, Esq.  
Hunter Swanson  
P.o Box 1880  
Bluffton, South Carolina 29910

Alan Wilson, Esq.  
Attorney General  
P.O. Box 11549  
Columbia, SC 29211

I further certify that on February 27th, 2025 an Original Notice of Intent to Appeal in the above captioned case was filed with the Jasper County Clerk of Court.

February 27, 2025

  
Hillary Futch, Esq.  
Bar No. 104962  
Assistant Public Defender  
Post Office Box 689  
Ridgeland, SC 29936

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**Office of the Public Defender**  
**Fourteenth Judicial Circuit**  
*Stephanie Smart-Gittings, Circuit Defender*

**BEAUFORT COUNTY**  
Human Services Building  
1905 Duke Street, Room 210  
Post Office Box 525  
Beaufort, SC 29902  
(843) 255-5805 (Phone)

**ALLENDALE, HAMPTON & JASPER COUNTIES**  
1 Courthouse Square  
80 Elm Street, Room 133  
Post Office Box 506  
Hampton, SC 29924  
(803) 914-2240 (Phone)  
(843) 255-9494 (Fax)

**COLLETON COUNTY**  
319 N. Lucas Street  
Walterboro, SC 29488  
(843) 549-1633 (Phone)

February 27, 2025

**Via Certified Mail/ Return Receipt Requested**

Clerk, The S.C. Court of Appeals  
Post Office Box 11629  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

**RECEIVED**  
MAR 04 2025  
SC Court of Appeals

**Re: NOTICE OF APPEAL**  
**State v. John Steven Reynovel Metzler**  
Warrant/Ticket No(s): 2023A2710200084; 2023A2710200085

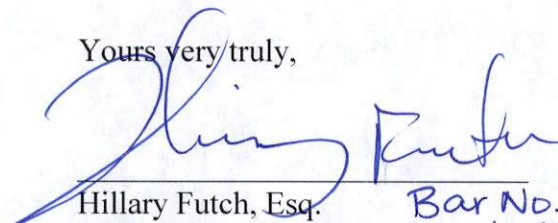
Dear Sir/ Madam:

Enclosed you will find the original Notice of Appeal in the above matter along with Proof of Service upon the Respondents. The Notice has been filed with the Jasper County Clerk of Court. Also enclosed is a copy of the sentencing sheet from which this appeal is taken and a copy of the warrant(s) and indictment(s).

These matters are being referred to the Office of Appellate Defense in that we were participating as Court appointed counsel at trial.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,

  
Hillary Futch, Esq. Bar No. 104962  
Assistant Public Defender  
Post Office Box 689

Ridgeland, SC 29936  
Attorney for Appellant

Enclosure

cc: Office of the Fourteenth Circuit Solicitor's Office  
Office of the Attorney General  
Office of Appellate Defense

