

IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In the General Sessions

APPEAL FROM LEXINGTON COUNTY GENERAL SESSIONS

William P. Keesley, Presiding Judge

Case No. 2025-GS-32-00209
Appellate Case No.: 2025-000518

JAMES ROBERT PRATT.....Appellant,

v.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINARespondent.

AMENDED NOTICE OF FILING NOTICE OF APPEAL

COMES NOW the Defendant, James Robert Pratt, by and through his undersigned counsel, hereby files his amended notice of appeal with the South Carolina Court of Appeals with regards to the guilty plea entered on March 5, 2025. The basis for this plea is that Defendant lacked the requisite capacity to enter into the plea. The court had concerns about Defendant's capacity and ordered him to have two separate evaluations as to whether he had the requisite capacity to enter into the plea. There is a legitimate question as to whether Defendant was competent to enter into this plea.

In addition, Defendant did not fully understand the possible sentences possibilities he faced at the time of the plea. He was set to plead guilty to a charge of criminal sexual conduct, 3rd degree and an incest charge. The incest charge was brought within two weeks of the plea date. Defendant

did not understand that the incest charge carried the possible sentence that it did. Defendant received the maximum sentence for the incest charge. There is a legitimate question as to whether Defendant knowingly pled to charges, he understood the possible sentence for.

Respectfully submitted,

GOODWYN LAW FIRM, LLC

/s/ T. JEFF GOODWYN, JR.

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Attorney for Defendant

Columbia, South Carolina
March 24, 2025

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Mar 24 2025

SC Court of Appeals

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PROOF OF SERVICE

I certify that I have served the **AMENDED NOTICE OF APPEAL**, on the following, VIA EMAIL at the addresses listed below on this March 24, 2025.

Honorable William P. Keesley wkeesleylc@sccourts.org wkeesleyj@sccourts.org	Rhonda W. Patterson, Deputy Solicitor 11th Judicial Circuit 205 East Main Street, Suite 309 Lexington, SC. 29072 RPatterson@LexingtonCounty.SC.GOV
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Respectfully Submitted,

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