

The South Carolina Court of Appeals

DeQuincey G. Simmons, Appellant,

v.

South Carolina Department of Employment Workforce
and Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC,
Respondents.

Appellate Case No. 2024-001608

ORDER

Appellant filed a "motion to strike Respondents' brief and for sanctions for procedural violations and unjustified extensions." Respondents filed a return, opposing Appellant's motion to strike and for sanctions and arguing for sanctions against Appellant due to his citations to non-existent case law and non-existent quotations from existing case law.¹ Appellant filed a reply, reiterating his earlier arguments and asking to hold the appeal in abeyance pending resolution of his motion. After careful consideration, we deny Appellant's motion to strike Respondents' brief and for sanctions. Further, we deny Respondent's motion for

¹ We take this opportunity to caution Appellant not to use non-existent citations and quotations. *See* Rule 269, SCACR ("Where an appeal, petition, motion[,] or return is frivolous or taken solely for the purposes of delay, or is not in compliance with these Rules, the appellate court may upon its own motion or that of a party, after ten (10) days['] notice, impose upon offending attorneys or parties such sanctions as the circumstances of the case and discouragement of like conduct in the future may require."); *Rouvet v. Rouvet*, 388 S.C. 301, 310, 696 S.E.2d 204, 208 (Ct. App. 2010) ("[L]ack of familiarity with legal proceedings is not an acceptable excuse and the court will hold a layman to the same standard as an attorney."); *State v. Burton*, 356 S.C. 259, 265 n.5, 589 S.E.2d 6, 9 n.5 (2003) ("A pro se litigant who knowingly elects to represent himself assumes full responsibility for complying with substantive and procedural requirements of the law.").

sanctions against Appellant. Finally, we hold Appellant's motion to hold the appeal in abeyance is moot. If Appellant wishes to file an initial reply brief, Appellant shall file and serve his initial reply brief within ten days of the date of this order and the record on appeal shall be due thirty days thereafter. If Appellant does not wish to file an initial reply brief, Appellant shall file and serve the record on appeal within thirty days of the date of this order.



FOR THE COURT

Columbia, South Carolina

FILED
Apr 07 2025

cc:

DeQuincey G. Simmons
Benjamin Thomas Cook, Esquire
Benjamin Tradd Hepner, Esquire