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May 16 2025

S.C. SUPREME COURT

IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF ABBEVILLE

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

STEVEN BIXBY, #006024,

CASE NO.: 2024-CP-01-00375

Applicant,

vs.

ORDER APPOINTING COURT EXPERT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

Respondent.

This matter is before the Court pursuant to an application for Post-Conviction Relief, filed on behalf of the applicant, Mr. Steven Bixby. Mr. Bixby has been convicted of two counts of murder and sentenced to death. At issue before the Court is Mr. Bixby's competency to be executed. The Post-Conviction Relief application alleges that Mr. Bixby's condition has worsened to the point that Mr. Bixby is now incompetent to be executed. The State opposes that allegation.

After conferring with counsel for each side, it is apparent to the Court that multiple experts will be called as witnesses in the case to testify. The Court notes that the Defendant has been evaluated multiple times in the past. Therefore, it would be helpful for the Court to use an expert familiar with the case. Donna Maddox, M.D. ("Dr. Maddox"), is a psychiatrist who has regularly conducted evaluations for both the State and private counsel. Dr. Maddox was involved previously and is familiar with the facts of the case. The Court previously informed counsel of its intent to appoint Dr. Maddox via conference call on Thursday, May 8, 2025. The Court has also conferred with Dr. Maddox who confirmed that she is available to serve both on and before the August 21-

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22, 2025, hearing date(s). Accordingly, the Court appoints Dr. Maddox as the Court's expert in this case.

The original of this Order is to be filed with the Abbeville County Clerk of Court in Case No. 2024-CP-01-00375, and copies provided to counsel on this matter. The undersigned will also forward a copy of this Order to the Clerk of the Supreme Court of South Carolina and Court Administration with a reference to Appellate Case No. 2007-054161.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

Walhalla, South Carolina

May 16, 2025



R. Scott Sprouse
Presiding Judge