

May 27, 2025

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S.C. SUPREME COURT

The Honorable Patricia A. Howard
Clerk, Supreme Court of South Carolina
P.O. Box 11330
Columbia, SC 29211

Re: *John Richard Wood v. State of South Carolina*
No. 2022-CP-23-06219

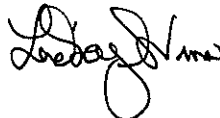
Dear Ms. Howard:

Pursuant to *In re Stays of Execution in Capital Cases*, 321 S.C. 544, 471 S.E.2d 140 (1996), the Court's order dated November 17, 2022, and a request for a status update from the Clerk's Office today, I am writing to report on the status of the above-referenced capital post-conviction relief case.

On March 10, 2025, Judge Knie issued an Order for Competency to be Executed Evaluation Pursuant to *Singleton v. State*. The parties provided all relevant materials to the Department of Mental Health ("DMH") on May 1, 2025. DMH has scheduled an evaluation of Mr. Wood for June 18, 2025. A written report from DMH must be submitted to the circuit court as soon as practicable, but no later than 30 days after the examination of Mr. Wood. Following the evaluation, the circuit court intends to conduct an evidentiary hearing on the issue of Mr. Wood's competency.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,



Lindsey S. Vann

cc: Melody Brown, Esq. (via email)
Judge Grace Knie (via email)