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May 23 2025

SC Court of Appeals

**THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS**

Appeal from Dorchester County
Court of Common Pleas

Maité Murphy, Circuit Court Judge

Case No. 2023-CP-18-02145

Steve Rickenbaker,

Respondent,

v.

Oakbrook Healthcare, LLC
d/b/a Oakbrook Health and Rehabilitation Center,

Appellant.

NOTICE OF APPEAL

CLEMENT RIVERS, LLP
Stephen L. Brown (SC Bar No. 66468)
D. Jay Davis Jr. (SC Bar No. 12084)
James D. Gandy, III (SC Bar No. 11925)
Russell G. Hines (SC Bar No. 72100)
25 Calhoun Street, Suite 400
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(843) 720-5488

Attorneys for Appellant

Other Counsel of Record:

Lee D. Cope (SC Bar No. 14361)
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Hampton, South Carolina 29924
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-and-

Neil E. Alger (SC Bar No. 100530)
PARKER LAW GROUP, LLP
P.O. Box 2530
Ridgeland, South Carolina 29936
(803) 943-2111

Attorneys for Respondent

Defendant/Appellant, Oakbrook Healthcare, LLC d/b/a Oakbrook Health and Rehabilitation Center (“Appellant”), hereby appeals the following order of the Honorable Maité Murphy, Circuit Court Judge:

- **Order filed April 3, 2025, denying Appellant’s Motion to Compel Arbitration.**

A copy of the appealed order is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. Although Appellant received written notice of entry of the appealed order on April 3, 2025, this appeal is timely under Rule 203(b)(1), SCACR, because, on Monday, April 14, 2025, Appellant made a timely motion under Rule 59(e), SCRCP, thus staying the time for appeal until Appellant’s receipt of written notice of entry of an order granting or denying the motion. Although, via an email from her judicial law clerk earlier today (see attached), Judge Murphy has announced her decision to deny the motion, as of the time of this notice of an appeal, a written order to this effect has not yet been entered. Once such an order is entered, Appellant will amend this notice of appeal to include the order—although, out of an abundance of caution, to the extent that Judge Murphy’s email ruling is appealable, Appellant hereby includes its appeal of the same in this notice of appeal.

Respectfully submitted,
CLEMENT RIVERS, LLP

By: s/Russell G. Hines
Stephen L. Brown (SC Bar No. 66468)
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Attorneys for Appellant

Charleston, South Carolina

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Appellant.

PROOF OF SERVICE

CLEMENT RIVERS, LLP
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Attorneys for Appellant

I, Russell G. Hines, of Clement Rivers, LLP, attorneys for Appellant, hereby certify that, on May 23, 2025, Appellant's **NOTICE OF APPEAL** was served on Respondent by emailing (see attached email) a copy of the same to his counsel of record:

Lee D. Cope, Esquire
lcope@parkerlawgroupsc.com
John E. Parker, Jr., Esquire
jayparker@parkerlawgroupsc.com
Neil E. Alger, Esquire
nalger@parkerlawgroupsc.com
PARKER LAW GROUP, LLP
Attorneys for Respondent

I also certify that a copy of Appellant's **NOTICE OF APPEAL** was today, May 23, 2025, E-Filed with the lower court (see attached NEF), which also, i.e., in addition to service by email, effected service of the notice today on all counsel of record via the E-Filing System.

Respectfully submitted,
CLEMENT RIVERS, LLP

By: s/Russell G. Hines
Russell G. Hines (SC Bar No. 72100)
Attorneys for Appellant

Charleston, South Carolina

May 23, 2025

Hines, Russell

From: Hines, Russell
Sent: Friday, May 23, 2025 3:25 PM
To: lcope@parkerlawgroupsc.com; jayparker@parkerlawgroupsc.com; nalger@parkerlawgroupsc.com
Cc: Shanna Jarrell; Brown, Stephen L.; Davis, Jay; Gandy, III, James D. (Tripp); Justman, Aimee; Bell, Pollyana (Polly); Peterson, Susan; Bohannon, Kiara; Eversole, Amy R.
Subject: Rickenbaker v. Oakbrook (2023-CP-18-02145) -- Notice of Appeal
Attachments: Rickenbaker v. Oakbrook (2023-CP-18-02145) -- Notice of Appeal.pdf; 2025 04-03 -- Order Denying MTCA.pdf; 2025 04-14 -- Appellant's Motion to Alter, Amend, and-or Reconsider.pdf; 2025 05-23 -- Email Denying MTR.pdf

Attached for service in the above-referenced matter please find our **Notice of Appeal** and the **attachments thereto**.

Russell G. Hines
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***** IMPORTANT NOTICE - READ THIS INFORMATION *****
NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING [NEF]

A filing has been submitted to the court RE: 2023CP1802145

Official File Stamp: 05-23-2025 03:20:01 PM
Court: CIRCUIT COURT
Common Pleas
Dorchester
Case Caption: Steve Rickenbaker VS Oakbrook Healthcare Llc , defendant, et al
Document(s) Submitted: Appeal/Notice of Appeal to Court of Appeals
- Exhibit/Filing of Exhibits
- Exhibit/Filing of Exhibits
- Exhibit/Filing of Exhibits
Filed by or on behalf of: Russell Grainger Hines

This notice was automatically generated by the Court's auto-notification system.

The following people were served electronically:

John Elliott Parker, Jr. for Steve Rickenbaker
Russell Grainger Hines for Oakbrook Healthcare Llc et al
James D. Gandy, III for Oakbrook Healthcare Llc et al
Lee Deer Cope for Steve Rickenbaker
Donald Jay Davis, Jr. for Oakbrook Healthcare Llc et al

The following people have not been served electronically by the Court. Therefore, they must be served by traditional means: