

**THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
THE SUPREME COURT**

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**RUFUS RIVERS AND MERLE RIVERS, PRO SE
RESPONDENTS**

Jun 11 2025

S.C. SUPREME COURT

VS.

**JAMES SMITH, JR.
PETITIONER**

SUPREME COURT CASE NO. 2023-01318

**RESPONDENTS' SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO STAY
REMITTITUR, REQUEST FOR FORENSIC ACCESS TO SIGNATURE EXEMPLARS, AND
NOTICE OF ANTICIPATED RULE 60 RELIEF**

COMES NOW the Plaintiffs, Rufus Rivers and Merle Rivers, appearing pro se, and respectfully submit this Supplemental Notice in further support of the previously filed Motion to Stay Remittitur. This Notice provides a material update concerning a pending forensic handwriting examination involving a disputed Power of Attorney, and respectfully request Court authorization to obtain signature exemplars. Respondents also notifies the Court of a forthcoming motion for post-judgment pursuant to Rule 60.

I. FORENSIC REVIEW STATUS

1. Respondents have retained a qualified handwriting examiner to evaluate the authenticity of a Power of Attorney relied upon during the underlying proceedings.
2. The preliminary findings suggest material irregularities in signature formation.
3. The forensic review is currently underway, and Respondents intend to submit the sworn expert findings upon completion.

II. REQUEST TO OBTAIN SIGNATURE EXEMPLARS

4. In order to complete a meaningful forensic comparison, Respondents respectfully seek Court authorization to obtain verified exemplars of Jessie Mae Smith (now deceased) from third party custodians, including banks, government agencies, and court archives.
5. These exemplars are essential to access whether the Power of Attorney bears forged or fraudulent elements.

6. Respondents affirm that all exemplars will be used solely for forensic analysis in connection with issues currently pending before this Court and in related federal proceedings.

III. CONTINUED NECESSITY TO STAY

7. The remittitur previously issued in this matter remains recalled.
8. Respondents' constitutional claims remain pending before the United District Court.
9. Reissuance of the remittitur prior to full resolution these claims and forensic review could result in irreparable harm and risk jurisdictional conflict.
10. This honorable Court possesses the inherent authority to stay remittitur in the interest of preserving judicial integrity. See *Ex State 339 S.C. 1,7 (2000)*.

IV. ANTICIPATED RULE 60 RELIEF

11. Respondents anticipate filing a motion pursuant to **Rule 60(b)(3)** and/or **Rule 60(d)(3)** to seek relief from a judgment or order materially affected by fraud or fraud upon the Court.
12. This forthcoming motion will be supported by sworn expert analysis and other evidentiary materials.
13. This Notice is provided to advise the Court of the scope and trajectory of post-judgment developments

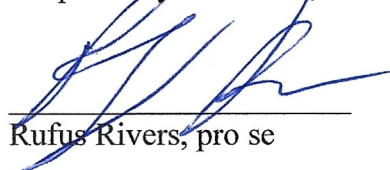
V. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Respondents respectfully prays that this Court:


- Confirm that the remittitur remains recalled and shall be withheld pending further proceedings;
- Accept this supplemental Notice and permit the filing of expert findings and related evidence;
- Authorize Respondents to obtain verified signature exemplars of Jessie Mae Smith from appropriate custodians for use in forensic analysis;
- Take judicial notice of Respondents' intent to seek Rule 60 relief; and
- Grant such further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

June 11, 2025

Respectfully submitted,



Rufus Rivers, pro se



Merle Rivers, pro se

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