

RECEIVED

Jun 27 2025

SC Court of Appeals



SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON INDIGENT DEFENSE

Division of Appellate Defense  
1330 Lady Street, Suite 401  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201-3332

Post Office Box 11589  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211-1589  
Telephone: (803) 734-1330  
Facsimile: (803) 734-1345

Robert M. Dudek, Chief Appellate Defender  
Wanda H. Carter, Deputy Chief Appellate Defender

June 23, 2025

The Honorable Debra R. McCaslin  
Circuit Court Judge  
205 East Main Street, Suite 463  
Lexington, SC 29072  
(via U.S. Mail & e-mail)

Re: The State v. Brandon L. Corder  
Appellate Case No. 2023-001543 | Lower Court Case No. 2020-GS-32-01854

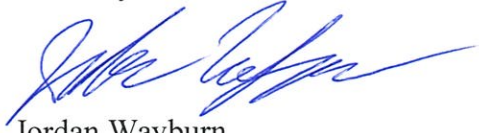
Dear Judge McCaslin:

I hope this letter finds you well. The Court of Appeals issued an order on June 18, 2025, remanding the above-entitled case to your Court for the reconstruction of portions of the February 27 to March 2, 2023 trial. That trial ended in a mistrial after you granted Mr. Corder's motion following several comments the solicitor made in closing. Reconstruction is necessary for four purposes. First, approximately three hours of the proceedings on March 1 were not transcribed where the initial court reporter was temporarily replaced by Bethanie Creppon. Second, at least one exhibit admitted at the mistrial was not admitted again at the subsequent trial and not retained by the clerk's office, so it is presently unavailable. Third, there are two official transcripts for March 2. Fourth, there are an extremely high number of "inaudible" or similar notations. As well, the portions of the record created by Legal Eagle do not comply with the Court Reporter's Manual. These problems currently prevent meaningful appellate review.

I am reaching out to you to begin the process of scheduling the reconstruction hearing in this case and have been asked to provide monthly status updates to the Court of Appeals. I am enclosing a copy of the Motion to Remand to Attempt Reconstruction (which details the problems identified in the transcript), the current transcripts of the mistrial, and the Order of the Court of Appeals. I have copied all counsel of record from the trials with this letter.

I would suggest a status conference as the next step to facilitate the remand. I am out of the country next week, but I am otherwise available to discuss and assist with scheduling whenever it is convenient for the Court. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,



Jordan Wayburn  
Appellate Defender

Enclosures: Trial Transcripts dated February 27 and 28 and March 1 and 2, 2023 (three separate documents); Motion to Remand to Attempt Reconstruction; Order Remanding for Reconstruction

cc: Melody Brown (*via email*)  
Benjamin Stitely (*via email*)  
Anna Williams Yonge (*via email*)  
Sutania Fuller (*via email*)  
Robert E. McNair, III (*via email*)  
Court of Appeals (*via email*)