

RECEIVED

Jul 17 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) 734-1397

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

July 17, 2025

The Honorable Jenny A. Kitchings
Clerk, S.C. Court of Appeals
Post Office Box 11629
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Re: The State v. Ontario Lamar Staley
Appellate Case No. 2024-002003

Dear Ms. Kitchings:

On July 14, 2025, counsel moved for the above case to be held in abeyance until sexually explicit photographs depicting minors could be sealed, transported to this Court under seal, and viewed by the attorneys in order to prepare the initial brief. The State moved to seal the photographs and on July 15, 2025, the Honorable Jocelyn J. Newman, the trial judge, ordered the photographs to be retained under seal by the Richland County Clerk of Court. See attached Order to Seal Exhibits. Counsel now seeks to have the photographs transported, under seal, to this Court for viewing by the parties. Enclosed is a proposed order for transportation. By copy of this letter, we are also forwarding a copy of this proposed order to Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General Mark R. Farthing. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathrine H. Hudgins".

Kathrine H. Hudgins
Senior Appellate Defender

KHH/cws

cc: Mark R. Farthing, Esq.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

Appeal from Richland County

Honorable Jocelyn J. Newman, Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

ONTARIO LAMAR STALEY,

APPELLANT

APPELLATE CASE NO. 2024-002003

ORDER

On motion of Kathrine H. Hudgins, attorney for appellant, it is hereby ORDERED that **STATE'S EXHIBITS #5-11, #14-16, and COURT'S EXHIBIT #1 (UNDER SEAL)**, be released to the Office of the Attorney General, or its designee, for transporting, under seal, to the Court of Appeals of South Carolina for purposes of review by the attorneys and the Court for the above-captioned case.

H. BRUCE WILLIAMS, CHIEF JUDGE

By _____
CLERK

Columbia, South Carolina

July 17, 2025

Copies to: The Honorable Jeanette McBride
Kathrine H. Hudgins, Esquire
Mark R. Farthing, Esquire

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF RICHLAND

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS
FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

State of South Carolina

Indictment Numbers: 2022GS4003148,
2022GS4003149, 2022GS4003150,
2022GS4003151, 2022GS4003152,
2022GS4003157

v.

ORDER TO SEAL EXHIBITS

Ontario Lamar Staley,
Defendant

During the November 18, 2024, term of court in Richland County the Defendant was tried and found guilty of the above indictments. During the State's case, the State's Exhibits 5-11 and 14-16 and the Court's Exhibit 1 were introduced into the record. These exhibits contain files that violate S.C. Code Ann. §16-15-410 (1976). These exhibits are ordered to be retained under seal by the Richland County Clerk of Court.

THEREFORE, IT IS SO ORDERED!


Circuit Court Judge, Fifth Judicial Circuit

Columbia, South Carolina
This 15th day of July 2025