

July 28, 2025

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

RECEIVED
Jul 28 2025
S.C. SUPREME COURT

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, I am writing to report on the status of the above-referenced capital post-conviction relief case.

On June 18, 2025, the South Carolina Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (SCDBHDD) evaluated Mr. Wood for competency to be executed. The SCDBHDD provided a report to counsel for the State and Mr. Wood on July 7, 2025, finding Mr. Wood incompetent to be executed. Counsel for Mr. Wood submitted the report to Judge Knie, indicating the matter is now ripe for adjudication. Applicant's experts have also completed their evaluations. The State has requested additional time for briefing prior to the adjudication of this matter. Counsel for Mr. Wood believe that no additional briefing is necessary at this time, and that the matter is ripe for a hearing on the merits of the claim.

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)