

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT  
Plaintiff(s)

2024 JUN 14 P 5:04

CIVIL ACTION COVERSHEET

2024-CP-3700 451  
2020 ES 3700532

Jason Boyle  
vs.  
Judge Singleton  
Pierce Estate?

Defendant(s)

Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

SC Bar #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: The coversheet and information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of docketing cases that are NOT E-Filed. It must be filled out completely, signed, and dated. A copy of this coversheet must be served on the defendant(s) along with the Summons and Complaint. This form is NOT required to be filed in E-Filed Cases.

DOCKETING INFORMATION (Check all that apply)

\*If Action is Judgment/Settlement do not complete

- JURY TRIAL demanded in complaint.  NON-JURY TRIAL demanded in complaint.
- This case is subject to ARBITRATION pursuant to the Court Annexed Alternative Dispute Resolution Rules.
- This case is subject to MEDIATION pursuant to the Court Annexed Alternative Dispute Resolution Rules.
- This case is exempt from ADR. (Certificate Attached)

NATURE OF ACTION (Check One Box Below)

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <p><b>Contracts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Constructions (100)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Debt Collection (110)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> General (130)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Breach of Contract (140)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Fraud/Bad Faith (150)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Failure to Deliver/Warranty (160)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Employment Discrim (170)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Employment (180)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other (199) _____</li> </ul> <p><b>Inmate Petitions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> PCR (500)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mandamus (520)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Habeas Corpus (530)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other (599)</li> </ul> | <p><b>Torts - Professional Malpractice</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dental Malpractice (200)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Legal Malpractice (210)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Medical Malpractice (220)</li> <li>Previous Notice of Intent Case #<br/>20____-NI-_____-_____</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Notice/ File Med Mal (230)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other (299) _____</li> </ul> <p><b>Administrative Law/Relief</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Reinstate Drv. License (800)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Judicial Review (810)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Relief (820)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Permanent Injunction (830)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Forfeiture-Petition (840)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Forfeiture-Consent Order (850)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other (899) _____</li> </ul> | <p><b>Torts - Personal Injury</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Conversion (310)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Motor Vehicle Accident (320)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Premises Liability (330)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Products Liability (340)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Personal Injury (350)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Wrongful Death (360)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Assault/Battery (370)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Slander/Libel (380)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other (399) _____</li> </ul> <p><b>Judgments/Settlements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Death Settlement (700)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Judgment (710)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Magistrate's Judgment (720)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Minor Settlement (730)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Transcript Judgment (740)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Lis Pendens (750)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Transfer of Structured Settlement Payment Rights Application (760)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Confession of Judgment (770)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Workers Compensation Settlement Approval (780)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Incapacitated Adult Settlement (790)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other (799) _____</li> </ul> | <p><b>Real Property</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Claim &amp; Delivery (400)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Condemnation (410)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Foreclosure (420)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mechanic's Lien (430)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Partition (440)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Possession (450)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Building Code Violation (460)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other (499) _____</li> </ul> <p><b>Appeals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Arbitration (900)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Magistrate-Civil (910)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Magistrate-Criminal (920)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Municipal (930)</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Probate Court (940)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> SCDOT (950)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Worker's Comp (960)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Zoning Board (970)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Public Service Comm. (990)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Employment Security Comm (991)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other (999)</li> </ul> |
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- Special/Complex /Other**
- Environmental (600)
  - Automobile Arb. (610)
  - Medical (620)
  - Other (699) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Sexual Predator (510)
  - Permanent Restraining Order (680)
  - Interpleader (690)
  - Pharmaceuticals (630)
  - Unfair Trade Practices (640)
  - Out-of State Depositions (650)
  - Motion to Quash Subpoena in an Out-of-County Action (660)
  - Pre-Suit Discovery (670)

Submitting Party Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Jason Boyle*

Date: 6/14/2024

2024CR3704516(14)24

I was incarcerated on May 29 to June 6,

late in the day.

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA S. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT

2024 JUN 14 P 5:04

I was kept in solitary confinement  
only allowed calls late in the day.

I had a lot of money over this  
and this is the last of my money.

Jason Boyle  
*[Signature]*

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT

2024 JUN 14 P 5:10  
THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
The Court of Common Pleas

APPEAL FROM OCONEE COUNTY  
Probate Court  
Hon. Danny Singleton, Probate Court Judge

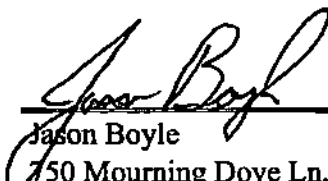
Case No. 2020ES3700532

In The Matter of: Doyle Elton Pierce..... Decedent,  
Ex Rel. Jason Boyle ..... Appellant.

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

Jason Boyle appeals the order of the Hon. Danny Singleton that, *inter alia*, held the Appellant in direct contempt. This order was entered on 29th May, 2024. A copy of which was received by the Appellant on 6th June, 2024.

14th June, 2024  
Seneca, South Carolina

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Boyle  
750 Mourning Dove Ln.  
Seneca, South Carolina 29678  
864-245-3278  
jasonboyle03@gmail.com  
FOR THE APPELLANT

Other Counsel of Record:  
Richard Hunt McDuff  
SC Bar No. 76242  
119 Professional Park Drive  
Seneca, South Carolina 29678  
864-882-2466

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC.  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT  
THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In The Court of Common Pleas  
2024 JUN 14 P 5:04

APPEAL FROM OCONEE COUNTY  
Probate Court

Hon. Danny Singleton, Probate Court Judge

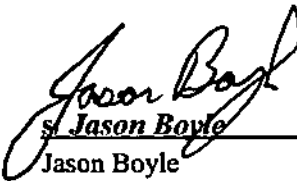
Case No. 2020ES3700532

In The Matter of: Doyle Elton Pierce..... Decedent,  
Ex Rel. Jason Boyle ..... Appellant.

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

I Jason Boyle, do hereby certify that I have served the Notice of Appeal and the Order on appeal in the above captioned case upon opposing counsel and the lower Court by depositing such in the U.S. mail with proper postage affixed thereto, addressed to counsel's last known address. A curtesy copy has been provided electronically via email addressed to counsel's email address as indicated by the AIS.

14th June, 2024  
Seneca, South Carolina

  
s/ Jason Boyle

Jason Boyle  
750 Mourning Dove Ln.  
Seneca, South Carolina 29678  
864-245-3278  
jasonboyle03@gmail.com  
For the Appellant

Other Counsel of Record:  
Richard Hunt McDuff  
SC Bar No. 76242  
119 Professional Park Drive  
Seneca, South Carolina 29678  
864-882-2466

IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, IN THE COUNTY OF OCONEE

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Appellant,

V.

DANNY SINGLETON, OCONEE COUNTY, OCONEE COUNTY DETENTION CENTER,  
OCONEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT- Respondents

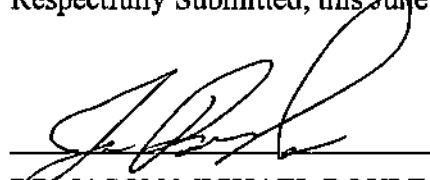
CASE NO: 2024-CP-3700451

**AMENDED NOTICE OF APPEAL**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Jason Michael Boyle, Appellant in the above-named case, hereby appeals to the Court of Common Pleas, Tenth Judicial Circuit, from the order issued by the Probate Court of Oconee County on June 17, 2024. This Amended Notice of Appeal supplements and incorporates by reference the Notice of Appeal filed on June 14, 2024, concerning the order issued on May 29, 2024.

The June 17, 2024 order constitutes double jeopardy in violation of the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution, as it imposes a sentence for the same offense for which the Appellant has already served a sentence.

Respectfully Submitted, this June 25, 2024.



DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D., Appellant  
750 Mourning Dove Ln. Seneca, South Carolina 29678  
[jasonboyle03@gmail.com](mailto:jasonboyle03@gmail.com)

FILED OCONEE COUNTY SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT  
2024 JUN 26 A 11:13

Copies to:  
Atty          (P)          (D)  
DSS          other Dorothy  
Mailed          Boxed          handed

ENTERED  
*all*  
COMPUTER

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this June 25, 2024, a copy of the Amended Notice of Appeal was hand delivered to the following parties:

1. Danny Singleton: 415 S. Pine St. Walhalla, SC 29691
2. Oconee County Detention Center; 300 S Church St, Walhalla, SC 29691
3. Oconee County Sheriff's Department: 300 S Church St, Walhalla, SC 29691
4. Oconee County Supervisor: 415 S. Pine St. Walhalla, SC 29691

Respectfully Submitted, this June 25, 2024.



DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D., Appellant.  
750 Mourning Dove Ln. Seneca, South Carolina 29678

[jasonboyle03@gmail.com](mailto:jasonboyle03@gmail.com)

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT  
2024 JUN 26 A 11:13

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF Oconee

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
\_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

FILED O'CONNOR COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT

Case No.: 2024-CP-3700451

Jason Michael Byrd (2024 JUN 26)  
Plaintiff,

MOTION AND ORDER INFORMATION  
FORM AND COVERSHEET

vs.

Danny Skyblor et al  
Defendant.

Plaintiff's Attorney: _____, Bar No. _____ Address: <u>750 Mccormy Lane Wk</u> <u>Seneca SC 2968</u> Phone: _____ Fax _____ E-mail: _____ Other: _____	Defendant's Attorney: _____, Bar No. _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Fax _____ E-mail: _____ Other: _____
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- MOTION HEARING REQUESTED (attach written motion and complete SECTIONS I and III)
- FORM MOTION, NO HEARING REQUESTED (complete SECTIONS II and III)
- PROPOSED ORDER/CONSENT ORDER (complete SECTIONS II and III)

**SECTION I: Hearing Information**

Nature of Motion: Emergency Injunction  
Estimated Time Needed: \_\_\_\_\_ Court Reporter Needed:  YES /  NO

**SECTION II: Motion/Order Type**

- Written motion attached
- Form Motion/Order

I hereby move for relief or action by the court as set forth in the attached proposed order.

Signature of Attorney for  Plaintiff /  Defendant [Signature] Date submitted 6/26/2024

**SECTION III: Motion Fee**

- PAID - AMOUNT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- EXEMPT: (check reason)
  - Rule to Show Cause in Child or Spousal Support
  - Domestic Abuse or Abuse and Neglect
  - Indigent Status  State Agency v. Indigent Party
  - Sexually Violent Predator Act  Post-Conviction Relief
  - Motion for Stay in Bankruptcy
  - Motion for Publication  Motion for Execution (Rule 69, SCRCP)
  - Proposed order submitted at request of the court; or, reduced to writing from motion made in open court per judge's instructions
- Name of Court Reporter: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**JUDGE'S SECTION**

- Motion Fee to be paid upon filing of the attached order.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

JUDGE CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CLERK'S VERIFICATION**

Collected by: [Signature] Date Filed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MOTION FEE COLLECTED: \$ 25.00 cash pd.  
 CONTESTED - AMOUNT DUE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

FILED O'CONNOR COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT  
2024 JUN 26 A 11:13

IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COUNTY OF OCONEE

JASON MICHEAL BOYLE

Appellant/Petitioner

V.

DANNY SINGLETON, in his official capacity as  
Probate Judge of Oconee County.

OCONEE COUNTY,  
OCONEE COUNTY DETENTION CENTER;  
OCONEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT.

Respondents/Defendants

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

CASE NO: 2024-CP-3700451

2024 JUN 26 A 11:13

FILED OCONEE COUNTY SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT

**EMERGENCY MOTION FOR INJUNCTION TO PREVENT UNLAWFUL  
DETENTION OF JASON MICHAEL BOYLE AND RELEASE PENDING APPEAL**

Petitioner Jason Michael Boyle who is currently incarcerated in the Oconee County Jail, respectfully moves this Honorable Court for an emergency injunction to prevent the Probate Court of Oconee County and the Oconee County Jail from continuing to unlawfully detain Petitioner Boyle. Additionally, Petitioner requests that Petitioner Boyle be released from jail pending the outcome of his appeals. This motion seeks immediate relief due to the unconstitutional nature of Petitioner Boyle's detention, which lacks legal basis, violates his due process rights, and constitutes double jeopardy.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

1. On May 24, 2024, Jason Michael Boyle recorded his interactions with the Probate Court clerks. At the time, Petitioner Boyle was unaware of a Supreme Court order that provided guidelines for the use of electronic devices in courthouses.
2. Petitioner Boyle posted his recorded interactions with the clerks on YouTube. Subsequently, the judge sent a copy of the Supreme Court order to parties in another litigation, which included Dr. Boyle's fiancée. His fiancée requested the judge to send a copy directly to Dr. Boyle and confirmed Dr. Boyle's email address.
3. On May 28, 2024, the Probate Court, acting as the complainant, sent Dr. Boyle a Rule to Show Cause why he should not be held in contempt for violating the Supreme Court order and immediately scheduled a hearing for June 5, 2024.
4. On May 29, 2024, Petitioner returned to the Probate court to be served with his summons/Rule to show cause. The Judge called the Police. While leaving the Probate Courthouse with the sheriff's deputies, Probate Court Judge Danny Singleton called Petitioner Boyle back and demanded he delete the video of the lobby he had earlier recorded or face jail time. Dr. Boyle declined to delete his video, and the judge sentenced him to 10 days for direct contempt while in the lobby. Without a written order, the sheriff's deputies handcuffed Petitioner Boyle and took him to jail. The written order was issued later that day.
5. Despite no direct violation of the Supreme Court order, he was sentenced to 10 days in jail for direct contempt by the judge without a trial, allegedly for May 24, 2024. During May 24, 2024, the judge did not witness the incident, and it did not occur during a court proceeding, thus not warranting a direct contempt charge or prison sentence.

6. A hearing was set for June 5, 2024, during which Petitioner Boyle was sentenced to an additional 60 days in jail for the May 04, 2024, recording, which took place in the absence of the judge. During this hearing, the judge made a lengthy speech about how Dr. Boyle defamed him in the video and hurt his feelings and reputation. The hearing was not about violating the Supreme Court order but about statements Boyle made to the clerks and posted on YouTube regarding the Judge. It was disguised as contempt of court. The Probate Court held a criminal trial in a probate court without following all necessary due process procedures. The Probate Court did not have jurisdiction to incarcerate Boyle for an alleged violation of the Supreme Court order, which the Probate Court does not have jurisdiction to enforce.
7. Petitioner Boyle was released from jail on May 30, 2024, on grounds of a mistrial for the second sentence, and another hearing was set for June 17, 2024. He had already served his 10-day sentence.
8. Petitioner Boyle had been approved for a public defender a week before the June 17, 2024, hearing. However, the public defender's office claims to have attempted to contact Petitioner Boyle on Friday, June 15, to inform him that his approval was rescinded because they do not handle cases in Probate Court due to their civil nature. There is no evidence that Petitioner Boyle received this communication.
9. On June 17, 2024, Petitioner Boyle presented his public defender form and requested a continuance, waiting to be assigned a public defender. He did not waive his right to an attorney. The judge denied the request and proceeded with the trial, forcing Petitioner Boyle to represent himself.

10. During the trial, witnesses testified that Petitioner Boyle was not informed of the Supreme Court order during the recording on May 24, 2024.
11. Despite the witness testimony, Petitioner Boyle was resentenced to 50 days for May 24, 2024, recording, which he had already served, constituting double jeopardy.
12. The Probate Court issued an order without creating a case number for Petitioner Boyle. He was sent to the Oconee County Detention Center without a case number, making it impossible to locate him at the jail or in the South Carolina Department of Corrections system, effectively rendering him a "ghost prisoner."
13. All attempts to obtain transcripts of Dr. Boyle's June 17, 2024, hearing have been futile as the Probate Court does not want to release such records, which show grave misconduct during the proceedings when Boyle was forced to represent himself and denied a continuance after issues with his public defender.

## **LEGAL ARGUMENTS**

### **1. Double Jeopardy**

The Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution protects individuals from being subjected to multiple punishments for the same offense. In *United States v. Wilson*, 420 U.S. 332 (1975), the Supreme Court emphasized that once a defendant has been punished for a particular offense, they cannot be punished again for the same offense. Petitioner Boyle has already served a ten-day sentence for the contempt charge. The subsequent resentencing to an additional 50 days for the same contempt constitutes double jeopardy and is therefore unconstitutional.

### **2. Lack of Legal Basis for Continued Detention**

The absence of an assigned case number and proper legal documentation for Petitioner Boyle's detention violates fundamental principles of due process and transparency. In *Jones v. Cunningham*, 371 U.S. 236 (1963), the Supreme Court underscored the necessity for transparency and proper documentation to protect the rights of detainees. Petitioner Boyle's status as a "ghost prisoner" undermines this principle, rendering his continued detention arbitrary and unlawful.

### **3. Violation of Due Process Rights**

The Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees due process rights, which include the right to be informed of the charges against oneself and the right to a fair hearing. In *Hamdi v. Rumsfeld*, 542 U.S. 507 (2004), the Supreme Court affirmed the necessity of due process, even for individuals detained by the government. The resentencing and continued detention of Petitioner Boyle without new charges or a proper legal basis violate these due process rights. Additionally, *Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319 (1976) established a balancing test for due process, considering the private interest affected, the risk of erroneous deprivation, and the government's interest. The arbitrary nature of Petitioner Boyle's detention presents a significant risk of erroneous deprivation of liberty.

### **4. Right to Counsel**

The Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees the right to counsel in criminal prosecutions. Petitioner Boyle did not waive his right to an attorney and had been approved for a public defender. The denial of his request for a continuance to allow for proper

legal representation violates his Sixth Amendment rights, as affirmed in *Gideon v. Wainwright*, 372 U.S. 335 (1963), which guarantees the right to counsel in criminal cases.

#### **5. Judicial Misconduct and Lack of Jurisdiction**

The Probate Court's actions in holding a criminal trial and imposing a sentence without following necessary due process procedures constitute judicial misconduct. The Probate Court does not have jurisdiction to incarcerate Petitioner Boyle for an alleged violation of the Supreme Court order, as probate courts generally do not handle criminal matters. This overreach and misuse of judicial authority further violate Petitioner Boyle's constitutional rights.

#### **6. First Amendment Rights**

Petitioner Boyle's recordings in the court lobby, a public area, were conducted to protect himself from misrepresentation, given his past experiences with the Probate Court. The recordings were a form of speech and expression protected under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. The punitive actions taken against Petitioner Boyle for these recordings infringe upon his First Amendment rights.

#### **7. Release Pending Appeal**

Given the pending appeals of Petitioner Boyle's sentences, he should be released from detention pending the resolution of these appeals. This would prevent further harm and uphold his constitutional rights while ensuring that the appeals process can proceed without the undue influence of unlawful detention.

For the reasons stated above, Petitioner respectfully requests this Court to grant the emergency injunction to prevent the continued unlawful detention of Petitioner Jason Michael Boyle, to order his release pending the outcome of his appeals, and to uphold justice and the rule of law.

#### **8. Likelihood of Success on the Merits**

The facts and circumstances of this case clearly show that Mr. Boyle is likely to succeed on the merits of his claims. The imposition of an additional 50-day sentence for the same offense for which he has already served a sentence constitutes double jeopardy and violates the Fifth Amendment.

#### **9. Irreparable Harm**

Mr. Boyle is suffering irreparable harm by being unlawfully detained. Continued detention without proper legal basis and due process constitutes a significant and ongoing violation of his constitutional rights.

#### **10. Balance of Equities**

The balance of equities tips in favor of Mr. Boyle. The Respondents have no legitimate interest in detaining Mr. Boyle unlawfully, and his continued detention causes significant personal and legal harm.

#### **11. Public Interest**

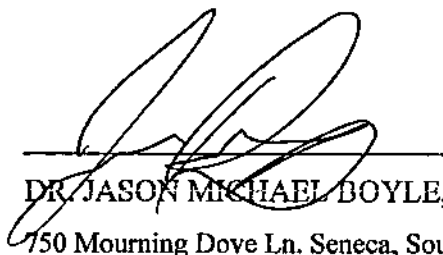
Granting the requested relief serves the public interest by upholding the rule of law and protecting individual constitutional rights against unlawful government actions.

## **REQUESTED RELIEF**

In light of the aforementioned legal arguments, Petitioner Boyle's continued detention is clearly unlawful. The following relief is respectfully requested:

1. **Temporary Restraining Order:** Immediately enjoin the Respondents from continuing to unlawfully.
2. **Preliminary Injunction:** Issue a preliminary injunction to maintain the relief granted in the TRO until a final determination on the merits of this case.
3. **Immediate Release Pending Appeal:** Order the immediate release of Petitioner Jason Michael Boyle from the Oconee County Jail pending the outcome of his appeals.
4. **Investigation:** Order an investigation into the circumstances leading to Petitioner Boyle's unlawful detention and the practices of the Oconee County Jail and the Oconee County Sheriff's Department to prevent future occurrences of a similar nature.
5. **Record Correction:** Immediate correction of Petitioner Boyle's jail records to accurately reflect his legal status and to ensure that no further unlawful actions are taken against him.

Respectfully Submitted, this June 25, 2024.



DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D, Appellant  
750 Mourning Dove Ln. Seneca, South Carolina 29678

[jasonboyle03@gmail.com](mailto:jasonboyle03@gmail.com)



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

)  
)  
)  
)

IN THE PROBATE COURT

COUNTY OF OCONEE

ORDER

Pursuant to a Rule to Show Cause served upon Jason Boyle, a hearing was conducted on June 17, 2024 to determine if Jason Boyle should be held in contempt of court.

After testimony and evidence was taken, it was determined beyond a reasonable doubt that Jason Boyle did commit direct contempt of court.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Jason Boyle be sentenced to serve a period of fifty (50) days in the Oconee County Detention Center.

IT IS SO ORDERED!

Dated June 17, 2024

Walhalla, SC



Danny Singleton, Judge of Probate

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF OCONEE

)  
)  
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)

IN THE PROBATE COURT

ORDER

Pursuant to a Rule to Show Cause served upon Jason Boyle, a hearing was conducted on June 5, 2024 to determine if Jason Boyle should be held in contempt of court.

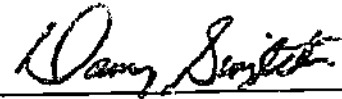
After testimony and evidence was taken, it was determined beyond a reasonable doubt that Jason Boyle did commit direct contempt of court.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that Jason Boyle be sentenced to serve a period of sixty (60) days in the Oconee County Detention Center.

IT IS SO ORDERED!

Dated June 5, 2024

Walhalla, SC



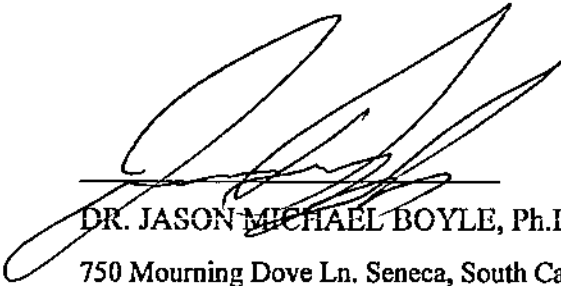
Danny Singleton, Judge of Probate

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this June 25, 2024, a copy of the Emergency Motion For Injunction To Prevent Unlawful Detention Of Jason Michael Boyle And Release Pending Appeal was hand delivered to the following parties:

1. Danny Singleton: 415 S. Pine St. Walhalla, SC 29691
2. Oconee County Detention Center; 300 S Church St, Walhalla, SC 29691
3. Oconee County Sheriff's Department: 300 S Church St, Walhalla, SC 29691
4. Oconee County Supervisor: 415 S. Pine St. Walhalla, SC 29691

Respectfully Submitted, this June 25, 2024.



DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D., Appellant.  
750 Mourning Dove Ln. Seneca, South Carolina 29678

[jasonboyle03@gmail.com](mailto:jasonboyle03@gmail.com)

FILED OCOONEE COUNTY SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT  
2024 JUN 26 A 11:13

IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COUNTY OF OCONEE

JASON MICHEAL BOYLE  
Appellant  
V.  
DANNY SINGLETON "et al"  
Respondent

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

CASE NO: 2024-CP-3700451

2024 JUL 23 A 9 31

FILED OCONEE COUNTY SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT

**APPELLANT'S OPPOSITION TO RESPONDENT'S MOTION FOR ORDER AND  
RULE TO SHOW CAUSE AND MOTION FOR SANCTIONS**

I, Jason Michael Boyle, vehemently oppose the Respondent's Motion for Order and Rule to Show Cause and request the Court to consider sanctions against the Respondent, Probate Court Judge Danny Singleton, for fraudulent fabrication of evidence. The following points are provided in support of this opposition and motion.

**INTRODUCTION**

I respectfully submit this opposition to the Respondent's Motion for Order and Rule to Show Cause. Additionally, I move for sanctions against the Respondent, Probate Court Judge Danny Singleton, on the grounds of fraudulent fabrication of evidence. The Respondent has presented tampered and falsified evidence in an attempt to unjustly implicate me in violating a court order. Additionally, he did this without any good faith. Such actions are a blatant abuse of judicial power and a severe breach of ethical conduct.

The purported evidence submitted by the Respondent, specifically Exhibit B, is a manipulated screenshot falsely indicating that I posted a video on YouTube on July 18, 2024. This claim is entirely unfounded and is directly contradicted by verifiable records from YouTube, as well as my own account activity. Furthermore, I did not receive a copy of the court order I allegedly violated until July 22, 2024, making any supposed violation prior to that date impossible.

Given the seriousness of the Respondent's misconduct, I request not only the dismissal of the Motion for Order and Rule to Show Cause but also the imposition of sanctions against Judge Danny Singleton. These sanctions are necessary to uphold the integrity of the judicial process and to address the harm caused by the Respondent's fraudulent actions. My arguments and evidence supporting these requests are detailed below.

*Copies Handed to  
Appellant*  
ENTERED  
JB  
COMPUTER

## ARGUMENT

**1. I was not provided with a copy of the July 17, 2024, order until July 22, 2024.** To violate an order, one must have received a copy of the order and must have then willfully violated the order. One cannot willfully violate an order that one has not received or even read its contents. I did not receive a copy of the order itself until the afternoon of Monday, July 22, 2024. I had been waiting for a copy to arrive in the mail, as I was not provided with a copy while leaving the courthouse or jail. Since returning from jail, I have not discussed this case with anyone and have been busy with my appeal brief. When I read the email from Judge McIntosh's clerk on July 22, 2024, directing parties to draft an order and a rule to show cause why I should not be held in contempt for allegedly violating the gag order, I immediately called the clerk of court for additional details. The clerk asked me to visit the courthouse to receive a copy of the order. I did not receive a copy of the Order of Release prior to Monday, July 22, 2024, when I went to the courthouse to receive it. I found a copy in the mailbox on the same day after returning from the clerk's office. I noticed that at the bottom of the order, there is a checklist of deliveries with check mark confirmations. Notice indicates that there is no check mark next to "handed to OCDC," which is why I did not receive paperwork upon leaving the jail. *[See copy of the order received on July 22, 2024]*

**2. Respondent Fabricated the Evidence Marked Exhibit B in order to frame me again.** Respondent Danny Singleton has stooped to the extent of fabricating evidence to implicate me. Exhibit B, which is a purported screenshot of my alleged YouTube account, is an obvious fabrication. This fabricated evidence is done with very low resolution and additional information like the date and time added to it, including the words "NEW" and "posted 1 day ago." I did not post such a video on Thursday, July 18, 2024. Neither have I posts any video on my YouTube channel in the entire month of July 2024.

This is not the first time Danny Singleton fabricated information to accuse me of committing a crime. In the probate lobby on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, he accused me of illegally acting as a lawyer in a defamatory email sent to all parties of the Doyle Pierce Estate. Testimony of Judge Green, the only witness to the matter, clearly shows no crime was committed!

**3. YouTube Confirmed That the Video in question Was Posted in June, Not July 18, 2024**

In my conversation with a YouTube Creator Support agent named Mitz, he confirmed that the last video posted on my account was in June. He further confirmed that the video entitled "Probate Judge Danny Singleton Bans Free Speech - jailed me for recording in the public lobby" was posted in June, and its status has not been updated. [See the attached conversation with the YouTube agent.]

**4. The Respondent Tampered with Evidence**

The so-called exhibit is clearly fabricated and edited to look like it was a screenshot from a newly posted video. The purported screenshot shows two YouTube videos that are identical, except for different titles. The red line at the bottom of each video shows that this is one video, with one being a duplicate of the original. The red line on the bottom of the videos shows where the video has been paused from watching. Both videos are showing the exact same time, proving that these are identical videos. This indicates that one video was copied and edited to implicate me. This is a clear fabrication of evidence and constitutes a criminal act.

[See evidence from respondent marked exhibit B]

**5. Evidence from my YouTube channel shows that the video in question was Posted on June 19, 2024 and NOT on July 18, 2024.**

I have attached an original copy of my YouTube account, showing related videos with a length of 15:37 seconds each, posted on June 7, 2024, and June 19, 2024, respectively. My YouTube records show that the alleged video in the respondent's fraudulent screenshot entitled "Probate Judge Danny Singleton Bans Free Speech - jailed me for recording in the Public lobby" was posted on June 19, 2024. This video has not been reposted, and the respondent cannot provide any other evidence apart from the manipulated screenshot with low resolution to prove that I posted this video on Thursday, July 18, 2024. [See screenshot of my YouTube Videos]

**6. Respondents had an Ex Parte Communications with the court.**

An additional concern arises with the notice to draft a Rule to Show Cause sent by Judge McIntosh's clerk of court to parties in the appellate case. The judge instructed parties via email to draft an order and a rule to show cause. This raises the issue of how Judge

McIntosh's office was notified of this fabricated evidence. It suggests the possibility of ex parte conversations that led to direct information being provided to the Court without my knowledge. I was informed that the complaint originated from the attorney for the respondent. This brings into question how the complaint was filed without my being copied. [ **See copy of the email from Judge McIntosh**]

### GROUNDS FOR SANCTIONS

Based on the points above, it is evident that the respondent, Judge Danny Singleton, has engaged in fraudulent fabrication of evidence in an attempt to falsely implicate me. Such actions are not only unethical but also illegal. Fabricating evidence undermines the integrity of the judicial process and constitutes a severe abuse of power.

I hereby request that the Court consider the following sanctions against the respondent:

1. **Dismissal of the Motion for Order and Rule to Show Cause:** Given the fraudulent nature of the evidence presented, the motion should be dismissed in its entirety.
2. **Referral for Criminal Investigation:** The Court should refer this matter to the South Carolina law enforcement for a criminal investigation into the fabrication of evidence.
3. **Disciplinary Action:** The Court should report Judge Danny Singleton to the appropriate judicial oversight body for disciplinary action, including possible suspension or removal from office.
4. **Compensatory Damages:** I request that the Court award compensatory damages for the undue stress, legal expenses, and harm to my reputation caused by the respondent's fraudulent actions.

Respectfully submitted, this July 23, 2024



DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D., Appellant

750 Mourning Dove Ln. Seneca, South Carolina 29678

[jasonboyle03@gmail.com](mailto:jasonboyle03@gmail.com)

Exhibit 1

EXHIBIT B

All Shorts Videos Unwatched Watched Recently uploaded Live

Filters



Jasonboyle03 me

@jasonboyle03me10 · 562 subscribers

Subscribe

Latest from Jasonboyle03 me



Probate Judge Danny Singleton Bans Free Speech- Jailed me for recording in the court lobby

108 views · 1 day ago

Jasonboyle03 me



First Amendment Audit gone sideways. Arrested! Sentenced to 60 days in a later trial.

1.4K views · 4 weeks ago

Jasonboyle03 me







The video that is claimed to be posted on July 18 is exactly the same as the one from one month ago.

Notice that the two images are exactly alike. The videos are even paused in the same place.

4:39 PM  
7/19/2024

Exhibit 2

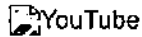
YouTube Studio interface showing a list of videos. The table below summarizes the visible content.

Video	Visibility	Restrictions	Date ↓	Views	Comments	Likes (vs. dislikes)
<input type="checkbox"/>  Probate Judge Danny Singleton Bans Free Speech- Jailed... Add description	Private	None	Jun 19, 2024 Uploaded	161	0	100.0% 13 likes
<input type="checkbox"/>  Boyle vs. Singleton - Oconee Probate - June 5, 2024 - Part 2 Add description	Private	None	Jun 12, 2024 Uploaded	963	0	89.1% 41 likes
<input type="checkbox"/>  Boyle vs. Singleton - Oconee Probate - June 5, 2024 - Part 1 First Amendment Right Is suspended during open court because there is a court reporter. It is preposterous to claim...	Private	None	Jun 12, 2024 Uploaded	661	0	91.7% 33 likes
<input type="checkbox"/>  Crooked Judge Danny Singleton has banned First Amendm... Add description	Private	None	Jun 11, 2024 Uploaded	2,680	0	79.9% 107 likes
<input type="checkbox"/>  Jurisdiction - Singleton Add description	Unlisted	None	Jun 10, 2024 Uploaded	1	0	-
<input type="checkbox"/>  First Amendment Audit gone sideways. Arrested! Sentence... Add description	Private	None	Jun 7, 2024 Uploaded	1,406	0	95.0% 96 likes

## Requested conversation copy

noreply@google.com <noreply@google.com>  
To: jasonboyle03@gmail.com

Mon, Jul 22, 2024 at 11:24 PM



### Thanks for contacting support.

You can find a copy of the conversation you requested below.

Chat transcript for case: 6-0577000036503  
Jul 22, 7:31 PM (Pacific Time)

7:31:13 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Jasonboyle03 me joined the conversation  
7:31:13 PM Stephen: Stephen joined the conversation  
7:31:18 PM Stephen: Hi! This is Stephen with the YouTube Support Team. How are you doing today?  
7:31:42 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Hello Stephen, I have been trying to reach Youtube Creator Support in vain  
7:31:51 PM Stephen: I see.  
7:31:57 PM Stephen: Let me connect you over to them.  
7:32:01 PM Stephen: Please stay connected.  
7:32:08 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Thank You  
7:34:51 PM Stephen: Stephen added participant(s): Mitz  
7:34:51 PM Mitz: Mitz joined the conversation  
7:34:55 PM Mitz: Hello, my name is Mitz. How are you today?  
7:34:58 PM Stephen: Stephen left the conversation  
7:35:10 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Thank you Mitz  
7:35:44 PM Mitz: You're welcome. I am reading your previous chat.  
7:36:16 PM Jasonboyle03 me: I need help from Youtube Confirming titles of Youtube videos Posted on my account between July 17, 2024 to July 22/2024  
7:37:07 PM Mitz: I see. Is there a specific link to the video you are referring to and what title do you want to confirm?  
7:38:30 PM Jasonboyle03 me: This title in particular but i also need just general understanding if any video was posted on my account at all: "Probate Judge Danny Singleton Bans Free Speech - jailed me for recording in the Public lobby"  
7:38:57 PM Jasonboyle03 me: between July 17, 2024 to July 22/2024  
7:40:20 PM Mitz: Hold on. I'm sorry, I want to have a full understanding of your concern. You want to know if there's any video posted in your channel between July 17, 2024 to July 22/2024 with the title "Probate Judge Danny Singleton Bans Free Speech - jailed me for recording in the Public lobby", right?  
7:40:51 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Yes.  
7:41:15 PM Jasonboyle03 me: And also if any videos were upload between those dates at all.  
7:41:37 PM Mitz: Got it. Thanks for confirming.  
7:42:39 PM Mitz: I know how crucial this is for you. Let me check this for you. May I please have the links to your channel? And just wondering, do you have access to the channel on your end?  
7:43:14 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Thank you. Here is the link: <https://www.youtube.com/@jasonboyle03me10>  
7:44:24 PM Mitz: Thanks for the link.  
7:45:22 PM Mitz: Are you logged in to the Studio?  
7:45:29 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Yes  
7:46:58 PM Mitz: Perfect! Here's a thing, with the Studio content tab, what you see on your end is the same thing we see on our end.  
7:47:21 PM Mitz: There are just some limitations on our end.  
7:48:09 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Please confirm on your end. I did not upload videos between those dates but someone states that I posted the video title mentioned above on Thursday 18, 2024  
7:48:57 PM Jasonboyle03 me: I need to verify if you see what i see. Its very important to me.  
7:48:57 PM Mitz: Where did you get the message that you uploaded on July 18th?  
7:49:33 PM Jasonboyle03 me: jason Boyle video (002).pdf  
7:50:32 PM Jasonboyle03 me: A screenshot of my account that was allegedly take on July 19, 2024 which shows i had upload the video circled on July 18, 2024.  
7:51:39 PM Mitz: I see. Thanks for the screenshot.  
7:52:17 PM Mitz: I have checked here and the latest video in your content tab for the regular video was June. For Shorts, it was May.  
7:52:42 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Problem is that I did not Unload that Video on July 18, 2024. I had that video on June 19, 2024. I have not reposted it since then. I just need to make sure nothing wrong is going on with my account.  
7:53:15 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Can you confirm which date of June was the last video posted?  
7:53:35 PM Mitz: I understand. I know how confusing this can be for you. But, I'll go ahead and double check this one here too.  
7:53:54 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Please do. Thank you!

7:55:00 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Definitely. Take as much time as possible.  
8:00:15 PM Mitz: Thanks for patiently waiting. I'm still looking into this for you. Will it be fine if I ask for a few minutes more?  
8:00:29 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Of course  
8:05:33 PM Mitz: Thanks for waiting.\n8:05:38 PM Mitz: Sorry for the extended hold.  
8:05:46 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Its okay  
8:07:41 PM Mitz: I appreciate your time. Here's what I found.  
8:09:59 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Okay, waiting  
8:11:11 PM Mitz: I'm sorry, I had a network issue. I can confirm that the video was uploaded in June.  
8:12:44 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Can you confirm the date in June when that video was uploaded? And we are talking about the video titled: Probate Judge Danny Singleton Bans Free Speech - jailed me for recording in the Public lobby"  
8:13:39 PM Mitz: Though, if you did some changes on the video settings or privacy, the publish date shows on homepage will be the date when you made the video public again.  
8:14:50 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Is there any record of any update on the video on July 18, 2024?  
8:15:26 PM Mitz: Nope, there's none.  
8:16:11 PM Mitz: Now, since we have no full access to all deleted video's data, I cannot tell exactly when the video was uploaded.  
8:17:05 PM Mitz: It was uploaded in June, but when did you delete the video?  
8:17:31 PM Jasonboyle03 me: I did not upload or delete any videos  
8:17:59 PM Jasonboyle03 me: That is why i needed your records to confirm activity on your end matches mine.  
8:18:36 PM Jasonboyle03 me: I already have that same video uploaded on the account twice.  
8:18:48 PM Mitz: What do you mean? You mentioned above that you uploaded this video in question last June 19th.  
8:20:17 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Yes. The video was uploaded on June 19, 2024, one month ago but for some reason someone said it was showing as New upload on July 18, 2024.  
8:20:36 PM Jasonboyle03 me: According to the screenshot I sent you  
8:20:56 PM Mitz: What I can confirm here is that the video was uploaded in June, but then, there's no record that this is being reuploaded. However, as mentioned above, the published date will change if the video was set to private or unlisted and you made it public again or there are some changes you made on the video settings.  
8:21:25 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Thank you for confirming.  
8:22:27 PM Jasonboyle03 me: I'm sure any Changes to the video settings is viewable on your end. You have confirmed you do not see any changes to settings to that video.  
8:22:47 PM Jasonboyle03 me: I will let you go now. Thank you for putting my mind to rest.  
8:23:35 PM Mitz: You're welcome. In the meantime, you may visit our help center for helpful articles in case you encounter issues: <https://support.google.com/youtube/?hl=en#topic=9257498>  
8:23:56 PM Jasonboyle03 me: Thank you  
8:24:16 PM Mitz: Alright then. I'm glad that you reached out to us about this concern and if there's anything else that we can assist you with, big or small, please let us know and we'll be more than happy to get back to you as soon as possible.

Take care and stay safe 🍀

8:24:19 PM Mitz: Mitz left the conversation  
8:24:20 PM Mitz: Thanks for contacting YouTube. Please take a moment to give us your feedback on your chat session: [https://support.google.com/youtube/contact/ytdp\\_tsurvey\\_v2?caseid=ABp5YsS4YTen7dJ5i8nkrB4mG0KfDHewRg2VdLbwnSGf3bjYfCWfVMimNCCQ=&hl=en](https://support.google.com/youtube/contact/ytdp_tsurvey_v2?caseid=ABp5YsS4YTen7dJ5i8nkrB4mG0KfDHewRg2VdLbwnSGf3bjYfCWfVMimNCCQ=&hl=en)  
8:24:20 PM Mitz: Mitz ended the conversation

[Quoted text hidden]

C

~~Exhibit 1~~ Exhibit 4

**M** Gmail

Dorothy Pierce <dorothy.pierce84@gmail.com>

---

**Unopposed Order Approving GEICO Settlement- Pierce Estate**

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Danny Singleton <dsingleton@ocuneesc.com>  
To: Dorothy Pierce <dorothy.pierce84@gmail.com>  
Cc: Donna Moore <75dmoore@gmail.com>, Rick McDuff <rick@mjlaws.com>, Griselda Godoy <ggodoy@ocuneesc.com>

Tue, Oct 24, 2023 at 12:08 PM

Again, the appeal issue was part of the agreement. If it is your intent to appeal, you have every right to do so, however, it violates the agreement and it was stated in court that the appeals were to be removed. It was proper to remove Item 13 from the order/agreement, you indicated that was fine. Also, on the day of appointment as PR, it was reiterated to you again in which you agreed and stated that would not happen.

A hearing will be scheduled soon to determine the status of the personal representative.

It also appears that your fiancé may have picked up the wrong documents. Further, your fiancé will no longer be allowed in the probate office or lobby area. He was here with your/his child waiting on documents and he took it upon himself to interrupt a judge in the lobby while she was speaking with someone on a separate estate issue. He was offering that person legal advice on what and what not to do and even encouraged him not to listen and come outside and speak to you, that you knew all about probate and you could help him. This is illegal and giving legal advise and acting as a non-licensed attorney. For this reason, he will no longer be able to enter the probate offices and or lobby area.

Thank you!

[Quoted text hidden]

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE OCONEE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
APPEAL FROM THE PROBATE COURT  
TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

The Order of Judge Danny Singleton

CASE NO: 2024-CP-3700451

JASON MICHAEL BOYLE-----Appellant,

V.

DANNY SINGLETON, "et al" -----Respondents

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT  
2024 JUL 31 P 1:39

**STATEMENT OF ISSUES ON APPEAL**

1. Did the Probate Judge err when he accused the appellant, in an email to uninterested parties, of illegally offering legal advice to a citizen in the lobby of the probate court on October 24, 2023?
2. Did the probate court properly consider the appellant's right to free speech under the First Amendment on October 24, May 24 and May 29 in its accusations and/or orders?
3. Did the probate court err in exceeding its jurisdiction by criminally prosecuting the appellant for direct criminal contempt of a South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order (SCSC AO) on use Electronic Devices in Courthouses dated March 09, 2023?
4. Was the appellant properly informed of the administrative order, through service or notice, and/or any related restrictions before his actions on May 24 and/or May 29, 2024?
5. Did the probate court violate the appellant's constitutional rights by restricting his access to the probate lobby in emails and through requests to the Sheriff Deputies to have him removed?
6. Did the Probate Court err in its determination that Appellant committed direct criminal contempt of court?
7. Did the probate court err in denying the appellant's right to effective legal representation during the June 17, 2024, hearing?

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*LM*  
COMPUTER

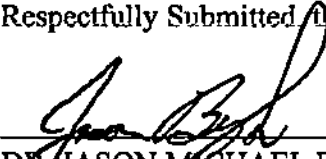
*no copies*

8. Did Judge Singleton err in using the Probate Estate case number of the Doyle Pierce Estate in the two summonses for Rule to Show Cause?
9. Did the Probate Court err by not including descriptive details and clarity in court documents such as orders and/or summonses?
10. Did the Probate Court err by not including case numbers in court orders and documents?
11. Did the probate court improperly deny the appellant's requests for a continuance on June 17, 2024?
12. Did the probate court err by not considering or hearing Appellant's Motion to Dismiss?
13. Did the probate court err in not granting requests made in the Memorandum on the Motion to Dismiss such as the requests for Judge Singleton to recuse himself, appointment of a special prosecutor, and/or to provide a jury trial?
14. Did the probate court err by verbally dismissing Appellant's Motion to Dismiss without an order of the court, reduced in writing and recorded with the clerk of probate court?
15. Did the probate court err by not giving the appellant a fair opportunity to present his case and respond to the allegations against him?
16. Did the probate court err in leading the public defender to believe this contempt rose out of a civil matter by using Doyle Elton Pierce's estate case number?
17. Did the probate court err by not properly following legal procedures and standards in sending summons and sentencing the appellant to incarceration?
18. Did the probate court err by not posting the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order (SCSC AO) regarding Electronic Devices in Courthouses dated March 09, 2023, as directed in the order itself?
19. Did the probate court fail to properly document and file orders related to the appellant's case, affecting the validity and enforceability of those orders?
20. Did the probate court err when Judge Singleton served as witness, prosecutor, investigator and judge, while acting as the Sua Sponte moving party?
21. Did Judge Singleton improperly testify to material facts from the bench?
22. Did Judge Singleton deprive appellant of his rights when he declined to be cross examined yet he was a material witness in Appellant's case.

23. Did Judge Singleton act out of judicial vindictiveness or personal bias against Appellant?
24. Did Judge Singleton err in bringing the Rule to Show Cause [RTSC] *Sua Sponte*, and then acting as the Judge?
25. Did the court err in having Judge Singleton call witnesses that were also his court clerks [Subordinates]?
26. Did Judge singleton err in preparing his own clerks as witnesses for trial?
27. Did Judge Singleton err by testifying from the bench?
28. Did Judge Singleton err by participating in *Ex Parte* conversations with any witnesses and/or the public defender?
29. Did the Probate Court err in not following procedure during the June 17 trial?
30. Did the probate court err in not holding a trial for the events of May 29,2024?
31. Did the Probate Court err by sentencing Appellant twice for the same crime?
32. Did the Probate Court violate Appellants Miranda Rights?
33. Did the probate court err by including Richard Hunt McDuff improperly in the proceedings and/or *Ex Parte* conversations?
34. Did Judge Singleton err by investigating the facts of the case prior to trial?
35. Did Judge Singleton err by participating as a witness to material facts of the case and Judge?
36. Did the probate court err by allowing improper hearsay testimony despite objections?
37. Did Judge Singleton err by not maintaining the necessary calm required for ethical adjudication during his interactions with Appellant and during June 17, 2024, trial?
38. Did Judge Singleton err by holding animosity against Appellant due to his relationship with Mrs. Pierce, Appellant's public accusations that Judge Singleton is unintelligent and corrupt, and/or his willingness to assert his rights?
39. Was the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order (SCSC AO) regarding Electronic Devices in Courthouses dated March 09, 2023, nullified upon conception?

40. Does the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order (SCSC AO) regarding Electronic Devices in Courthouses dated March 09, 2023, violate the US Constitution amendment rights?
41. Does this South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order (SCSC AO) regarding Electronic Devices in Courthouses dated March 09, 2023, essentially act as law, in a violation of Articles I and III of the US constitution?
42. Were Appellant's rights violated when he was incarcerated without a case number or crime on the public record?
43. Were Appellant's 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and/or 14<sup>th</sup> amendment rights violated?
44. Did the probate court err by not providing Appellant with a fair trial?
45. Did Judge Singleton err in requesting Appellant to destroy evidence on May 29, 2024?

Respectfully Submitted, this July 30, 2024.

  
DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D., Appellant  
750 Mourning Dove Ln. Seneca, South Carolina 29678  
jasonboyle03@gmail.com  
(864) 245-3278

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF Oconee

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT

CASE NO.: 2024-CP-3700451

Jason Boyle  
Plaintiff,

2024 AUG 13 P 2:47

MOTION AND ORDER INFORMATION  
FORM AND COVERSHEET

Singleton  
Defendant.

Plaintiff's Attorney: _____, Bar No. _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Fax _____ E-mail: _____ Other: _____	<u>Jason Boyle</u> <u>750 Morning Dove Ln.</u> <u>Seneca 29678</u>	Defendant's Attorney: _____, Bar No. _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Fax _____ E-mail: _____ Other: _____
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

- MOTION HEARING REQUESTED (attach written motion and complete SECTIONS I and III)
- FORM MOTION, NO HEARING REQUESTED (complete SECTIONS II and III)
- PROPOSED ORDER/CONSENT ORDER (complete SECTIONS II and III)

SECTION I: Hearing Information

Nature of Motion: Motion Strike  
Estimated Time Needed: 15 min Court Reporter Needed:  YES /  NO

SECTION II: Motion/Order Type

- Written motion attached
- Form Motion/Order

I hereby move for relief or action by the court as set forth in the attached proposed order.

Jason Boyle  
Signature of Attorney for  Plaintiff /  Defendant Date submitted 9/13/24

SECTION III: Motion Fee

- PAID - AMOUNT: \$ 2500
- EXEMPT: (check reason)
  - Rule to Show Cause in Child or Spousal Support
  - Domestic Abuse or Abuse and Neglect
  - Indigent Status  State Agency v. Indigent Party
  - Sexually Violent Predator Act  Post-Conviction Relief
  - Motion for Stay in Bankruptcy
  - Motion for Publication  Motion for Execution (Rule 69, SCRCP)
  - Proposed order submitted at request of the court; or, reduced to writing from motion made in open court per judge's instructions
- Name of Court Reporter: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

JUDGE'S SECTION

- Motion Fee to be paid upon filing of the attached order.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

JUDGE CODE \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CLERK'S VERIFICATION

Collected by: aw Date Filed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MOTION FEE COLLECTED: \$ 2500 cash  
 CONTESTED - AMOUNT DUE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT  
2024 AUG 13 P 2:47

Copies to:  
Atty. (P)  (D) \_\_\_\_\_  
DSS \_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailed \_\_\_\_\_ Boxed \_\_\_\_\_ handed

ENTERED  
aw  
COMPUTER

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT

2024 AUG 13 P 2:47

IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

CASE NO: 2024-CP-3700451

JASON MICHAEL BOYLE----- Appellant,

V.

DANNY SINGLETON, "et al" ----- Respondents

**MOTION TO STRIKE RESPONDENT'S TRANSCRIPT DATED JULY 23, 2024**

COMES NOW, Dr. Jason Michael Boyle, Ph.D., Appellant in the above-referenced case, and respectfully moves this Honorable Court to strike the transcript produced on July 31, 2024, by the Respondent, on the following grounds:

1. Improper Notation of Case Number: The transcript is improperly notated with the Doyle Pierce Estate Case Number: 2020-ES-37-00532. However, this case has no relation to the Doyle Pierce estate.
2. Judicial Clarification: On June 17, 2024, Judge Singleton explicitly stated during proceedings that the Appellant's case is not associated with the Doyle Pierce estate. The relevant excerpt from the transcript is as follows:
  - o Page 14, Line 13:  
JUDGE SINGLETON: "No, this is not under the Doyle Pierce case. This is not under -- this is -- you may have attached a case number to it but this is your conduct, it has nothing to do with the estate of Doyle Pierce. This has -- this has to do with you recording on the date and time in question, recording at the Clerk's window, okay."
3. Request for Amendment: In light of the above statement made in open court, it is evident that the transcript should not bear the case number belonging to the Doyle Pierce estate. I,


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therefore, request that the transcript be amended to accurately reflect the correct case number and status of the probate case.

WHEREFORE, the Appellant respectfully requests that this Honorable Court:

1. Strike the transcript dated July 23, 2024, due to the improper notation of the Doyle Pierce Estate case number.
2. Order the Respondent to produce an amended transcript that correctly reflects the appropriate case number.
3. Grant any further relief that this Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted this 13th day of August, 2024.



DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D., Appellant  
750 Mourning Dove Ln. Seneca, South Carolina 29678  
jasonboyle03@gmail.com  
(864) 245-3278

IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT

TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

CASE NO: 2024-CP-3700451

2024 AUG 14 P 4:44

JASON MICHAEL BOYLE----- Appellant,

V.

DANNY SINGLETON, "et al" ----- Respondents

**AMENDED MOTION TO STRIKE RESPONDENT'S TRANSCRIPT DATED JULY 23, 2024**

COMES NOW, Dr. Jason Michael Boyle, Ph.D., Appellant in the above-referenced case, and respectfully moves this Honorable Court to strike the transcript produced on July 31, 2024, by the Respondent, on the following grounds:

1. **Improper Notation of Case Number:** The transcript is improperly notated with the Doyle Pierce Estate Case Number: 2020-ES-37-00532. However, this case has no relation to the Doyle Pierce estate.
2. **Judicial Clarification:** On June 17, 2024, Judge Singleton explicitly stated during proceedings that the Appellant's case is not associated with the Doyle Pierce estate. The relevant excerpt from the transcript is as follows:
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JUDGE SINGLETON: "No, this is not under the Doyle Pierce case. This is not under -- this is -- you may have attached a case number to it but this is your conduct, it has nothing to do with the estate of Doyle Pierce. This has -- this has to do with you recording on the date and time in question, recording at the Clerk's window, okay."
3. **Request for Amendment:** In light of the above statement made in open court, it is evident that the transcript should not bear the case number belonging to the Doyle Pierce estate. I,

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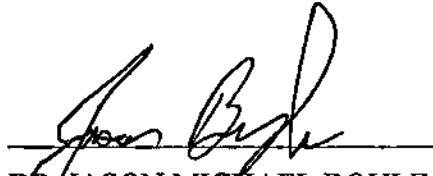
therefore, request that the transcript be amended to accurately reflect the correct case number and status of the probate case.

4. Request for Amendment: The certificate of transcription is dated July 23, the date of transcription prior to updates. I, therefore, request that the date of the certificate of transcription be updated to reflect the date of delivery after corrections. See email dated July 31.

WHEREFORE, the Appellant respectfully requests that this Honorable Court:

1. Strike the transcript dated July 23, 2024, due to the improper notation of the Doyle Pierce Estate case number.
2. Order the Respondent to produce an amended transcript that correctly reflects the appropriate case number.
3. Grant any further relief that this Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted this 14th day of August, 2024.



DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D., Appellant  
750 Mourning Dove Ln. Seneca, South Carolina 29678  
jasonboyle03@gmail.com  
(864) 245-3278

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

FILED OSONEE COUNTY SC 2024 -CP- 37 - 00451

MELISSA C. BURTON

CLERK OF COURT

MOTION AND ORDER INFORMATION

FORM AND COVERSHEET

*Jean Boyle*

Plaintiff,

2024 AUG 14 P 4: 58

vs.

*Danny Singleton*

Defendant.

Plaintiff's Attorney: _____, Bar No. _____ Address:  Phone: _____ Fax _____ E-mail: _____ Other: _____	Defendant's Attorney: _____, Bar No. _____ Address:  Phone: _____ Fax _____ E-mail: _____ Other: _____
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

MOTION HEARING REQUESTED (attach written motion and complete SECTIONS I and III)  
 FORM MOTION, NO HEARING REQUESTED (complete SECTIONS II and III)  
 PROPOSED ORDER/CONSENT ORDER (complete SECTIONS II and III)

**SECTION I: Hearing Information**

Nature of Motion: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Estimated Time Needed: \_\_\_\_\_ Court Reporter Needed:  YES/ NO

**SECTION II: Motion/Order Type**

Written motion attached  
 Form Motion/Order  
 I hereby move for relief or action by the court as set forth in the attached proposed order.

*Jean Boyle*  
 Signature of Attorney for  Plaintiff /  Defendant

Date submitted 8/14/24

**SECTION III: Motion Fee**

PAID - AMOUNT: \$ 25  
 EXEMPT: (check reason)

Rule to Show Cause in Child or Spousal Support  
 Domestic Abuse or Abuse and Neglect  
 Indigent Status  State Agency v. Indigent Party  
 Sexually Violent Predator Act  Post-Conviction Relief  
 Motion for Stay in Bankruptcy  
 Motion for Publication  Motion for Execution (Rule 69, SCRPC)  
 Proposed order submitted at request of the court; or,  
 reduced to writing from motion made in open court per judge's instructions  
 Name of Court Reporter: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>JUDGE'S SECTION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Motion Fee to be paid upon filing of the attached order. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	JUDGE CODE _____ Date: _____
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**CLERK'S VERIFICATION**

Collected by: *JM* Date Filed: 8/14/24  
 MOTION FEE COLLECTED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 CONTESTED - AMOUNT DUE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

CASE NO: 2024-CP-3700451

JASON MICHAEL BOYLE----- Appellant,

V.

DANNY SINGLETON, "et al" -----Respondents

**PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDAMUS**

**The Petitioner, Jason Boyle, respectfully petitions this Honorable Court for the issuance of a Writ of Mandamus, and in support thereof, states as follows:**

1. **Petitioner:** The Petitioner in this matter is Jason Boyle, residing at 750 Mourning Dove Lane, Seneca, SC, 29678.
2. **Respondent:** The Respondent is the Probate Court of Oconee County, South Carolina.
3. **Jurisdiction:** This Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Rule 75 of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure and relevant statutory and case law.
4. **Background:**
  - o On June 5, 2024, the Probate Court issued an Order in the matter Rule to Show Cause (Order was issued with no case number).
  - o On June 17, 2024, the Probate Court issued a subsequent Order in the same matter.
  - o On June 26, 2024, the Petitioner timely filed an Amended Notice of Appeal contesting both the June 5 and June 17 Orders.
5. **Rule 75 Compliance:**
  - o Pursuant to Rule 75, SCRPC, the Probate Court is required to transmit the complete record of the case to the Clerk of the Circuit Court within 30 days from the filing of the Notice of Appeal.

- As of the date of this filing, more than 30 days have passed since the Notice of Appeal was filed, and the Probate Court has failed to transmit the complete record as required.

**6. Legal Grounds for Writ of Mandamus:**

- A Writ of Mandamus is an extraordinary remedy available to compel a public official or entity to perform a mandatory duty where there is no other adequate remedy at law.
- The duty of the Probate Court to transmit the record is clear and non-discretionary under Rule 75, SCRPC.
- The failure of the Probate Court to perform this duty is causing undue delay and prejudice to the Petitioner's right to a timely appeal.

**7. Relief Sought:**

- The Petitioner respectfully requests that this Honorable Court issue a Writ of Mandamus compelling the Probate Court of Oconee, South Carolina, to immediately transmit the complete record of the case to the Clerk of the 10<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court in compliance with Rule 75, SCRPC.

**WHEREFORE**, the Petitioner prays that this Honorable Court grant the relief requested and any further relief that the Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted this 14th day of August, 2024.



DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D., Appellant  
750 Mourning Dove Ln. Seneca, South Carolina 29678  
jasonboyle03@gmail.com  
(864) 245-3278

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE OCONEE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
APPEAL FROM THE PROBATE COURT  
TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT  
2024 AUG 20 P 1:13

The Order of Judge Danny Singleton

CASE NO: 2024-CP-3700451

JASON MICHAEL BOYLE----- Appellant,

V.

DANNY SINGLETON, "et al" ----- Respondents

**INITIAL BRIEF OF APPELLANT**

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

1. On or about October 24, 2023, the Appellant visited the Oconee Probate Office to deliver a copy of the Notice of Appeal filed in the Circuit Court. This Notice of Appeal was submitted on behalf of the Appellant's fiancée, Dorothy Pierce, in connection with the ongoing estate case of Doyle Elton Pierce and specifically addressed the highly contested Settlement Order signed by Judge Singleton.

a. While waiting on the court, the Appellant overheard a conversation between Judge Green, the probate assistant Judge, and an older gentleman in the Lobby. Judge Green informed him of his right to get an attorney, and the Appellant interjected to inform him he had the right to act *Pro Se*.

b. Subsequently, Judge Singleton, who was not present for the interaction in the lobby, sent an email to the parties of the Pierce Estate case. The Appellant was not

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included in the email for the Appellant is not a party to this estate. The email directed to Mrs. Pierce stated:

- i. Judge Singleton writes, *“Again, the appeal issue was part of the agreement. If it is your intent to appeal, you have every right to do so, however, it violates the agreement and it was stated in court that the appeals were to be removed”* .... He added that... *“A hearing will be scheduled soon to determine the status of the personal representative.”*
  - ii. Regarding the Appellant’s conversation with the gentleman, Judge Singleton writes, *“It also appears that you fiancé may have picked up the wrong documents. Further, your fiancé will no longer be allowed in the probate office or lobby area. He was here with your/his child waiting on documents and he took it upon himself to interrupt a judge in the lobby while she was speaking with someone on a separate estate issue. He was offering that person legal advice on what and what not to do and even encouraged him not to listen and come outside and speak to you, that you knew all about probate and you could help him. This is illegal and giving legal advise and acting as a non-licensed attorney. For this reason, he will no longer be able to enter the probate”*
  - iii. The Appellant asserts that the email sent to parties involved in the Estate of Doyle Elton Pierce was inappropriate, inaccurate, and defamatory.
- c. The Appellant was never formally issued an order banning him from the probate lobby.
- i. Shortly after the inappropriate and defamatory email was circulated, the Appellant returned to the lobby to file papers. Although he had heard about the email, he had not yet seen it. During this visit, Judge Singleton confronted the Appellant, stating that he was not allowed to be there and could not return. The Appellant explained his understanding of the law to Judge Singleton, asserting that he was within his rights to be there, and proceeded to file the papers.
  - ii. Subsequently, the judge permitted the Appellant to file the documents he had come to submit. The Appellant continued to return to the probate office on

numerous occasions to file papers on behalf of Mrs. Pierce without incident, until May 24, 2024.

2. On May 24, 2024, the Appellant entered the probate lobby and recorded himself paying an invoice on behalf of Mrs. Pierce. The facts surrounding the debt, and the payment, are relevant to separate litigation.
  - a. There were no signs on the probate court doors restricting access and the doors were not locked. The probate lobby is in a public building and open to the public.
  - b. The Appellant did not go into restricted space.
  - c. At this time, the Appellant had no information about any South Carolina Supreme Court order restricting the use of electronic devices in South Carolina courthouses.
  - d. There were no notices posted on the Probate Court door restricting the use of electronic devices.
  - e. The appellant paid the invoice while recording his interactions with the Probate Court Clerk
3. During his interactions with the Probate Court Clerk, the Appellant recorded a statement in which he expressed his frustration, saying: “If he hadn’t threatened to kick me out of here illegally, I wouldn’t be so annoyed with him as a whole. But when he broke the law so blatantly in my face and then denied it later because he was so ignorant of the law—I mean, he’s got a high school degree. He doesn’t even have a college degree, and he’s a Probate Judge in Oconee County? I mean, that’s wild. Whoever thought that was a good idea? He’s not intelligent enough to understand complex arguments, but he’s managing complex probate cases.”
4. Immediately after recording the interaction, the Appellant posted the video to YouTube while sitting in his car outside the courthouse.
5. The contents of the video recording and its subsequent posting on YouTube enraged Judge Singleton. This incident became the catalyst for the judge’s retaliatory and vindictive actions against the Appellant, eventually resulting in the Appellant’s incarceration on two separate occasions for the same offense. It is important to note that Judge Singleton was not upset about the use of an electronic device itself, as he has previously allowed his family members

to use electronic devices in his chambers to take pictures, which were later posted to Facebook, where he was tagged, all without repercussions.

6. When the Appellant returned home, Mrs. Pierce informed him that she had received an email from Judge Singleton stating that the Appellant's recording was illegal. The Appellant then requested the Judge's email address and sent him a message asserting that he believed his actions were protected by the First Amendment, and that any order to the contrary would be a violation of his constitutional rights. The Appellant also included a link to the video he had previously posted on YouTube.
7. On May 28, 2024, Officer Honea from the Oconee County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) arrived at the Appellant's residence to serve separate Rules To Show Cause (RTSC) to both the Appellant and Mrs. Pierce. Since the Appellant and his fiancée keep the gate to their residence locked, the officer drove through the woods to bypass the locked driveway gate, which prominently displayed a "No Trespassing" sign, following orders from Judge Singleton. Mrs. Pierce accepted her RTSC but refused to accept service on behalf of the Appellant.
8. On May 29, 2024, the Appellant returned to the probate court to obtain his Rule to Show Cause and requested to speak with Judge Singleton. Before meeting with the Appellant, Judge Singleton had already contacted the Oconee County Sheriff's Office to request the presence of deputies. Shortly thereafter, Officer Stokes and three other OCSD officers arrived. Judge Singleton then emerged from his chambers to speak with the Appellant. The Appellant recorded his interactions with the Judge in the probate court lobby, far from the Clerk's window, as he requested the summons for the RTSC.
  - a. Neither the probate court nor the OCSD were able to produce the RTSC document for the Appellant.
  - b. The Appellant agreed to leave despite his legal right to remain.
  - c. As the Appellant was walking out of the court lobby and halfway down the hall toward the exit, a probate court clerk followed him and informed him that Judge Singleton had instructed the Appellant to return to the probate lobby to speak with him.

- d.** In the lobby, Judge Singleton demanded that the Appellant delete his video evidence or be held in contempt of court. The Appellant declined to destroy his video evidence, leading Judge Singleton to order the OCSD to arrest him and hold him in jail for 10 days for contempt of court. It is important to note that on this day, the Appellant did not violate the alleged Supreme Court order regarding the use of electronic devices, as he did not record at the Clerk's window. Instead, he recorded his interactions with Judge Singleton in the lobby.
- e.** Judge Singleton's actions reveal several significant issues, including his preemptive involvement of law enforcement, which created an intimidating environment and demonstrated his intent to incarcerate the Appellant before establishing any guilt.
- f.** The Appellant's incarceration stemmed solely from his refusal to delete video evidence, not from any actual violation.
- g.** At no point during this interaction was I read my Miranda rights. I was not informed of my right to remain silent, my right to an attorney, or that anything I said could be used against me. This failure occurred despite the fact that I was clearly in a custodial setting and being interrogated about my actions related to the video recording. I was detained when Judge Singleton demanded my return to the court lobby. The interaction between Judge Singleton and me meets the criteria for custodial interrogation. I was not free to leave, as evidenced by my immediate arrest and detention following my refusal to delete the video. The judge's demand and subsequent sentencing constituted an interrogation aimed at compelling an incriminating response from me.
- h.** The Appellant was entitled to a hearing or trial before being sentenced to 10 days in jail for refusing to delete his video evidence. However, instead of affording the Appellant this due process, Judge Singleton immediately ordered him to serve 10 days in jail and only then scheduled a hearing for June 5, 2024, after the sentence had already been imposed. This sequence of events highlights a significant violation of the Appellant's rights, as he was punished without the opportunity to defend himself or challenge the charges in a proper legal proceeding.

- c. Richard Hunt McDuff, an attorney on the Doyle Pierce Estate case, sat at the prosecutor's bench taking notes and making gestures.
  - d. Judge Singleton testified from the bench as to the facts of the case.
  - e. Witnesses included Judge Green and two Oconee probate clerks. All of the witnesses called by Judge Singleton were his subordinates.
  - f. Judge Singleton testified from the bench defending himself against public allegations the Appellant made about his character and competency.
  - g. Judge Singleton held the Appellant in direct contempt of court and sentenced him to 60 days.
    - i. This order did not contain a case number.
    - ii. The order failed to specify the date of the alleged criminal infraction or provide any details regarding the actions deemed criminal or in violation of the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order (SCSC AO).
    - iii. Judge Singleton later declared a mistrial in this matter.
11. On June 6, 2024, Judge Singleton issued an order stating the Appellant was represented by ineffective counsel in the RTSC hearing.
- a. This order had no case number.
  - b. This order immediately released the Appellant from detention.
12. On June 6, prior to appellant's release, the Appellant was issued a new RTSC for a trial date of June 17, 2024. The wording in this RTSC is identical to the one issued on June 5, 2024.
- a. The RTSC, again inappropriately used the Doyle Elton Pierce Estate Case number.
  - b. The RTSC had no date of incident.
  - c. The RTSC had no accusation of direct contempt.
13. A few days prior to June 12, 2024, the Appellant sent an email to the Probate Court Clerk requesting audio files from his hearing for transcription purposes, as required by the South Carolina Rules of Criminal and Civil Procedure, plus additional documents on his file to help him prepare for June 17, 2024, hearing. On or about June 12, 2024, the Clerk of the Probate Court informed the Appellant via email that his requested documents were ready. The Appellant promptly visited the probate court, entered the probate lobby to retrieve the requested records, make additional records requests, and speak with Judge Singleton about the upcoming criminal trial as the prosecutor and the moving party.

- a. Once the Appellant retrieved the records request, the Appellant realized there were many missing documents.
  - b. Once again, Judge Singleton called the Sheriff's Office and requested deputies to come to the probate court. It is important to note that it was the probate court clerk who had informed the Appellant to come and pick up his records. Despite this, the judge immediately called the police as soon as the Appellant arrived at the probate court lobby.
  - c. While waiting for Judge Singleton to arrive, Officer Stokes and another officer arrived to wait with him at the request of the probate court.
    - i. The Appellant was there with his one-year-old child and the child was playing with Officer Stokes.
    - ii. The conversation and atmosphere were pleasant prior to the arrival of Judge Singleton.
  - d. Judge Singleton arrived shortly in the lobby thereafter in an aggravated state.
  - e. Judge Singleton was too impatient to answer the Appellant's questions and yet he is the moving party in the appellant's contempt case and the Prosecutor.
  - f. Judge Singleton asked the officers to remove me twice, they refused this request.
  - g. The Appellant stated that if threatened with arrest, the Appellant would leave.
  - h. The Appellant left of his own volition without receiving all the requested documents or making the additional records requests needed.
14. On June 10, 2024, Appellant applied for a public defender to defend him against the criminal contempt charge levied against him by the judge who had already sentenced him to direct criminal contempt on May 29, 2024, and June 5, 2024.
- a. The public defender's office determined that the Appellant met the financial qualifications and that the case met the requirements for assignment of a public defender.
  - b. Appellant's application was approved after review, and appellant was advised to wait for a public defender to be assigned to him.
  - c. The Public Defenders Office (PDO) advised the Appellant to hand over the approved application form to the judge at the time of the hearing and request a continuance.
  - d. As of the morning of June 17, 2024, the Appellant had not heard back from the PDO.

15. On June 17, 2024, at approximately 9:30 a.m., the Appellant filed a Motion to Dismiss, along with a 14-page Memorandum of Law that presented strong legal arguments supported by South Carolina state rules and case laws, as well as an approved application for a public defender.
16. During the June 17, 2024, hearing, despite presenting the approved public defender form and not waiving his right to an attorney, the Appellant's request for a continuance pending the appointment of a public defender was denied. The judge proceeded with the trial, forcing the Appellant to represent himself without ensuring that he had adequate legal representation or that he had knowingly and voluntarily waived his right to counsel.
  - a. During the first recess of the trial on June 17, 2024, Judge Singleton contacted the Public Defender's Office (PDO) regarding the Appellant's representation, following the Appellant's insistence on legal counsel and his submission of an approved public defender form, which should have warranted a continuance until a public defender was assigned.
  - b. Later in the trial, Mr. Abdalla, a public defender, and his paralegal arrived at the probate court. They met with Judge Singleton in the judge's chambers, ex parte, and subsequently testified under oath that the Public Defender's Office would not represent the Appellant because the case was civil in nature, not criminal.
    - i. The reasoning behind this was that the summons used the Doyle Pierce Estate case number, a civil case in which the Appellant had no involvement.
    - ii. As a result, the Appellant was denied representation by the Public Defender's Office about an hour after the trial had already begun.
    - iii. Judge Singleton denied the Appellant's request for a continuance, claiming that the Appellant had been informed of his right to a lawyer and given sufficient time to secure one. However, this was inaccurate, as the Appellant had indeed secured a public defender, but due to the probate court's wrongful annexation of the case to the Estate of Doyle Elton

Pierce, the Appellant was denied representation by the Public Defender's Office after the trial had already commenced.

- a. Appellant later learned that the public defender filed a document in the probate court stating they were unable to represent appellant due to the civil nature of the case. This was a reason to grant him a continuance to secure a lawyer, but instead appellant was deprived of legal counsel.
- b. The appellant could not afford a lawyer, and yet the county Public Defender's office considers the case civil, even though appellant had already served a 10-day jail sentence for direct criminal contempt. The second jail sentence, which was 60 days, was on probate court file but was relieved due to ineffective counsel. The matter was in no way civil, and the judge knew he was treating the case as criminal contempt.
- c. On June 17, 2024, at the criminal trial, the motion to dismiss was denied verbally from the bench without proper consideration or argument.
  - i. The details of the motion were never discussed in open court as appellant insisted on his right to counsel.
  - ii. The motion was never officially dismissed/denied with the judge's signature or properly recorded as required by law, rendering the order on the Motion to Dismiss null and void, as if no order had been issued.
  - iii. There was insufficient time between the filing of the document and the start of the trial for Judge Singleton to carefully consider the arguments of the motion, or even read the motion in its entirety for that matter.
  - iv. The memorandum on the motion to dismiss requested the following:
    - A jury trial.
    - Judge Singleton to recuse himself.
    - A special prosecutor.

17. During the trial, witnesses testified that the Appellant was not informed of the Supreme Court order during the first recording and that the Appellant did not use an electronic device at the clerks' window during the second recording, thus not violating the order.

18. After the trial, despite witness testimonies exonerating Appellant, Judge Singleton declared the Appellant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt of direct criminal contempt and resented him to an additional 50 days of incarceration, following the initial 10-day sentence.
  - i. Once again, this order contained no case number.
  - ii. The order also lacked specific dates of the events in question or any details regarding those events/ crimes.
19. In his oral conclusion and justification for the 50-day sentence, Judge Singleton indicated that since the Appellant had already served 10 days of a previous 60-day sentence, he was adding 50 days to complete the 60-day term. This action was inappropriate, as the original sentence had already been fully served, making the additional 50 days a case of double jeopardy.
20. The judge in this case acted as the moving party, the victim, the prosecutor, the primary witness and the judge, creating a clear conflict of interest and undermining the fairness of the proceedings. Throughout the trial, he continuously testified from the bench, and when the Appellant requested that he be sworn in to be cross examined after testifying from the bench, the judge blatantly refused.
21. The Probate Court issued several orders without creating a case number for the Appellant. As a result, the Appellant was sent to the Oconee County Detention Center without a case number, making it impossible to locate him in the South Carolina Department of Corrections system. This effectively rendered the Appellant an undocumented prisoner, as his name could be found in the Oconee County Department of Corrections, but a case number and the reasons for his incarceration were not listed.

## **LEGAL ARGUMENTS**

### **Argument Regarding Issue 1**

**The Probate Judge erred when he accused the appellant, in an email to uninterested parties, of illegally offering legal advice to a citizen in the lobby of the probate court on October 24, 2023.**

Judge Singleton, in an email to uninterested parties (**Exhibit 1**), falsely claimed that the appellant had illegally offered legal advice to a citizen in the probate court lobby. Under South Carolina law, defamatory statements made with reckless disregard for the truth form the basis for a defamation claim, as seen in **Holtzscheiter v. Thomson Newspapers, Inc., 332 S.C. 502, 506 S.E.2d 497 (Ct. App. 1998)**. The appellant contends that he merely informed a citizen of his rights, which was corroborated by the testimony of Judge Green during a subsequent criminal trial. The email from Judge Singleton, which was not based on direct observation, but rather on hearsay and personal animosity, raises concerns of judicial misconduct. This is further supported by **Parker v. Evening Post Publishing Co., 317 S.C. 236, 452 S.E.2d 640 (Ct. App. 1994)**, which underscores that accusations of criminal conduct, when made recklessly, constitute defamation per se.

Furthermore, the appellant was inappropriately banned from the Probate Court in this same email. This email order, without due process or proper service, is a violation of the Appellant's due process rights guaranteed by the **14th Amendment** and underscores the reckless behavior of Judge Singleton. **Canon 2A of the South Carolina Code of Judicial Conduct** requires judges to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary. Judge Singleton's actions, motivated by personal feelings and retaliation for the filing of an appeal, are a clear violation of **Canon 3B(2)**.

### **Argument Regarding Issue 2**

**The probate court did not properly consider the appellant's right to free speech under the First Amendment on October 24, 2023, May 24, 2024 and May 29, 2024 in its accusations and orders.**

On October 24, 2023, the appellant was wrongly accused by Judge Singleton of illegally offering legal advice and was subsequently banned from the probate court in an email sent to the appellant's fiancé and other disinterested parties. This accusation was based on hearsay rather than direct observation. The appellant's speech—informing a man of his rights—constitutes a protected exercise of free speech under the First Amendment. The Supreme Court has consistently held that speech on matters of public concern, such as legal rights, is at the core of the First Amendment's protections. As stated in *Snyder v. Phelps*, "The First Amendment reflects 'a profound national commitment to the principle that debate on public issues should be uninhibited, robust, and wide-open, and that it may well include vehement, caustic, and sometimes unpleasantly sharp attacks on government and public officials.'" (*Snyder v. Phelps*, 562 U.S. 443, 452 (2011)). By banning the appellant from the court without proper justification or direct evidence, the probate court infringed upon the appellant's right to free speech.

On May 24, 2024 the appellant filmed himself (**Exhibit 2**) paying a bill at the clerk's window, unaware of the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order regarding the use of electronic devices in courthouses (SCSC AO). The appellant was later sentenced to 10 and 50 days in jail for this action. While the use of electronic devices can be regulated within courtrooms, the appellant's act of filming, particularly in a non-disruptive manner, should be considered a form of speech. *City of Houston v. Hill* reinforces that laws or orders that broadly restrict speech must be narrowly tailored and cannot infringe upon fundamental rights without compelling justification. As the Court stated, "The First Amendment protects a significant amount of verbal criticism and challenge directed at police officers. The Constitution does not allow such speech to be made a crime." (*City of Houston v. Hill*, 482 U.S. 451, 461 (1987)). This principle extends to non-disruptive acts of filming, underscoring the need for careful scrutiny to avoid unconstitutional restrictions.

On May 29, 2024, the appellant filmed in the lobby of the courthouse, an area not explicitly prohibited by the alleged Supreme Court's order. The appellant was immediately arrested and sentenced to 10 days in jail without a trial. (**Exhibit 3**) This action by the probate court is a clear violation of the appellant's right to free speech and due process. The lobby of a courthouse is a public space where expressive activities, including filming, are protected under the First Amendment. The "right under the First and Fourteenth Amendments guaranteeing freedom of

speech and of assembly, and freedom to petition the Government for a redress of grievances” (Brown v. Louisiana, 383 U.S. 131 (1966)).

### **Argument Regarding Issue 3**

**The probate court erred in exceeding its jurisdiction by criminally prosecuting the appellant for direct criminal contempt of a South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order on use Electronic Devices in Courthouses (SCSC AO) dated March 09, 2023.**

The Probate Court prosecuting the appellant for direct criminal contempt exceeded its jurisdictional authority. The probate court in South Carolina is a court of limited jurisdiction, as clearly established in *Matter of Howard*, 315 S.C. 356, 434 S.E.2d 254 (1993), and outlined in Title 62-1-302 of the South Carolina Code. As stated in *Matter of Howard*, "The jurisdiction of the probate court extends to subject matter related to estates of decedents. Because the estate asserts no interest in the gun, the issue of title to the gun is not subject matter related to the estate of the decedent. Accordingly, the probate court had no jurisdiction to determine that issue." Given this limitation, the Probate Court's attempt to prosecute the appellant for criminal contempt, a matter unrelated to the administration of estates, appears to be beyond its authorized scope. Additionally, there does not appear to be any history of criminal trials taking place in the probate court in South Carolina, further supporting the argument that this action exceeded the court's jurisdiction. This will be a precedent setting case, if upheld.

The rationale for prosecuting the appellant stems from an alleged violation of a South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order regarding the use of electronic devices in courthouses (SCSC AO). Even if violation of this order could constitute criminal contempt, the probate court lacked jurisdiction to hear the criminal contempt. Since the alleged offense is criminal, does not arise from a pending probate matter nor affect the adjudication of any probate case, it falls squarely outside the probate court's limited jurisdiction.

### **Argument Regarding Issue 4**

**The appellant was not properly informed of the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order, through service or notice, or any related restrictions before his actions on May 24 or May 29, 2024.**

The due process requirements under both federal and state law necessitate that individuals be given proper notice of any legal restrictions that may subject them to penalties for noncompliance.

The appellant testified under oath on June 17, 2024, that he had no knowledge of any restrictions on filming in the public lobby (**Page 39 Line 20, Page 43 Line 10, Page 46 Line 21 and Page 87 Line 5**) of a South Carolina courthouse on May 24, 2024. There is no evidence presented or accusations made that the Appellant was aware of the SCSC AO prior to the May 24 recording. The trial of June 17, 2024 was regarding the events of May 24, 2024 and no other day (**Page 70 Line 16, Page 73 Line 3**). Additionally, Judge Singleton agrees that the Appellant was unaware of the order (**Page 45 Line 9**). Moreover, no trial was ever held regarding the events of May 29, 2024. Testimonies from two court clerks and the assistant probate judge also indicated that they had no knowledge of the appellant being informed of the order he was accused of violating. Mrs. Loman states she was aware of the order and did not inform the Appellant during his recording of her at the clerk's window (**Page 21 line 14**). Mrs. Bonadee, verifies that she has "no way of knowing" if the appellant was aware of the SCSC AO (**Page 31 Line 10 and Page 34 Line 15**). Associate Judge Green states she also in unaware of the Appellant being notified of the SCSC AO (**Page 84 Line 19**).

Without proper notice, service, or posting of the administrative order as required by the order itself, the appellant could not have reasonably been expected to comply with its restrictions. SCSC AO explicitly states that its contents "shall" be posted on the courthouse door. The appellant began his recordings outside the courthouse and filmed himself walking through the door, capturing the absence of any notice posted on the door, as required by the SCSC AO the Appellant purportedly violated. This absence of notice precludes any lawful punishment based on the appellant's actions.

It appears that Judge Singleton cannot discriminate between the law and a court order. He clearly states that case law is one of three ways of making law "and case law can come from Administrative Orders" (**Page 88 Line 21**). Clearly this is not correct. Case law must arise from a case. Judge Singleton states the Appellant "did violate the order. Ignorance of the law is no excuse" (**Page 81 Line 12**). He here recognizes the Appellant was not informed of the order he purportedly violated, and he thinks the order is a law.).

### Arguments Regarding Issue 6

**The Probate Court erred in its determination that Appellant committed direct criminal contempt of court.**

Direct criminal contempt is reserved for actions that occur within the presence of the court and disrupt court proceedings. The behavior in question, which took place in the lobby of the courthouse, without any judge present, rather than inside a courtroom during active proceedings, does not meet the legal threshold for direct criminal contempt.

Direct criminal contempt requires that the contemptuous conduct occurs in the immediate presence of the court and that it significantly disrupts or threatens to disrupt ongoing judicial proceedings. According to South Carolina law, as codified in S.C. Code Ann. § 14-1-50, direct contempt involves actions that take place within the courtroom or in the presence of the judge during a proceeding. The Appellant's behavior—filming in the courthouse lobby—occurred outside of any active court proceedings and did not disrupt any judicial activities. No judge witnessed the events.

South Carolina's jurisprudence indicates that the long standing practice in the courts of this state is to "impose the contempt power of the courts sparingly" (emphasis supplied). See, *McCall v. McCall*, 303 S.C. 452, 401 S.E.2d 193 (Ct. App. 1991). An adjudication of contempt in a contempt of court action is within the sound discretion of the Trial Judge. See, *Whetstone v. Whetstone*, 309 S.C. 227, 420 S.E.2d 877 (Ct. App. 1992). "The [finding of contempt] is subject to reversal when such is based on a finding that is without evidentiary support or when there has been an abuse of discretion."

### Arguments Regarding Issues 7 & 11

**The probate court erred in denying the appellant's right to effective legal representation during the June 17, 2024, hearing. Additionally, the probate court improperly denied the appellant's requests for a continuance.**

The Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guarantees the right to a fair trial, including the right to effective legal representation. Similarly, Article I, Section 14 of the South Carolina

**Constitution** enshrines the right to counsel as fundamental to a fair trial. The Appellant was initially informed that he would be represented by the Public Defender's Office (PDO). This is evidenced in the application for council (**Exhibit 4**) and in the transcript. The Appellant submitted the approved form prior to trial. Judge Singleton becomes confused at the bench concluding the application for a public defender was not granted and that the Appellant had applied the morning of the trial (**Page 5 Line 19**). The Appellant had submitted the application on June 10, as clearly marked on the application in the judge's possession. Judge Singleton then calls a recess.

During this first recess of the trial, Judge Singleton contacted the PDO, resulting in the PDO's stating the Appellant would not be represented due to the matter being characterized as civil rather than criminal. This characterization of the matter as civil is in the letter from the PDO and in the transcript (**Page 8 Lines 7, 11, and 15, and Page 9 Line 17**). This decision to characterize the case as civil was based on the fact that the summons used the case number of the Doyle Pierce Estate, a civil matter in which the Appellant had no involvement (**Page 14 Line 14 and Page 55 Line 20**) and that the case was held in the probate court, a court that has no jurisdiction to hold a criminal trial (**South Carolina Code of Laws , Title 62-1-302**).

This confusion caused by the court after the criminal trial began is clearly cause for continuance. The appellant requests a continuance and Judge Singleton denies it immediately (**Page 13 Line 21**). The denial of the Appellant's request for continuance is a clear example of judicial vindictiveness. The U.S. Supreme Court's decision in **Strickland v. Washington, 466 U.S. 668 (1984)**, established that ineffective assistance of counsel arises when the defendant is deprived of adequate legal representation. This denial of counsel violated the Appellant's constitutional rights to a fair trial and effective assistance of counsel.

#### **Arguments Regarding Issue 8**

**Judge Singleton erred in using the Probate Estate case number of the Doyle Pierce Estate in the two summonses for Rule to Show Cause (RTSC).**

The summonses issued by Judge Singleton referenced the Probate Estate case number of the Doyle Pierce Estate, which was unrelated to the appellant's actions. The appellant filmed himself paying a bill on behalf of a third party, an action that had no connection to the underlying probate

matter. The use of the Doyle Pierce Estate case number in the summonses misrepresents the nature of the alleged contempt and inappropriately ties the appellant's conduct to an unrelated probate proceeding. Judge Singleton stated this clearly on June 17:

“No, this is not under the Doyle Peirce case. This is not under -- this is -- you may have attached a case number to it but this is **your** conduct, it has nothing to do with the estate of Doyle Pearce. This has -- this has to **do** with you recording on the date and time in question, recording at the Clerk’s 1window, okay.” (Page 14 Line 14)

He states this same claim twice (Page 55 Line 20). Contempt proceedings should be directly related to the case at hand, and the misuse of the probate case number further demonstrates not only the lack of proper jurisdiction and relevance in the issuance of the summonses, but also Judge Singletons inability to maintain professional competency, as required in **South Carolina Code of Judicial Conduct Rule 501**. Judge Singleton’s use of the Doyle Pierce Estate case number in the summonses for the Rule to Show Cause was erroneous. The Probate court could not create an independent criminal case because it lacks jurisdiction, so it did what it could, with reckless disregard for the law, to ensure the Appellant was punished in a gross display of judicial overreach.

The Appellant is unable to find any case law related to incarceration without a case number. The Appellant asserts that the incarceration without a case number represents an egregious act of judicial overreach, indicative not of mere error but of deliberate malfeasance. Judge Singleton's actions, driven by personal animosity towards the Appellant and his fiancé, constitute a clear instance of judicial vindictiveness, reflecting a profound abuse of judicial power. If upheld this case will set an alarming precedence.

### **Arguments Regarding Issue 9**

**The Probate Court erred by not including descriptive details and clarity in court documents such as orders and summons.**

The May 29, 2024, order references both the events of May 24, 2024 and May 29,2024 yet it does not clarify which specific actions or day(s) led to the 10-day sentence (**Exhibit 3**). This ambiguity violates the principles of due process, which require that an individual be fully informed of the nature and cause of the accusations against him.

The May 29, 2024, probate order vaguely states that "*Jason Boyle entered the Probate Court lobby while recording with his phone as he approached the clerk window to request to speak with the judge*", but it does not specify whether this conduct violated South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order. The Administrative Order prohibits the use of electronic devices "at any counter or window, or immediately adjacent space," yet the probate court order issuing the 10-day sentence does not explicitly state that the appellant entered this restricted space while recording or provide any evidence, leaving the basis for the contempt finding absent.

The May 29, 2024, order also claims that the appellant was aware of the Chief Justice's Order "concerning videoing" in certain areas of the court. First, the Chief Justice's Order does not mention video recording in the lobby area, it simply restricts the use of electronic devices. Additionally, the order fails to specify how or when the appellant was made aware of this restriction, and no trial was held regarding the events of May 29 for the Appellant to defend himself. Finally, this Order has no proper title or case number in direct defiance of **SCRCP Rule 58(a)**. Due process under the Fourteenth Amendment requires that individuals be given clear notice of the charges against them and the specific conduct that constitutes a violation.

#### **Arguments Regarding Issue 17, 19 & 42**

**The probate court erred by not properly following legal procedures and standards in sending summons and sentencing the appellant to incarceration. The probate court failed to properly document and file orders related to the appellant's case, affecting the validity and enforceability of those orders. The Appellant's rights were violated when he was incarcerated without a case number or crime on the public record.**

The appellant's due process rights have been fundamentally violated by the Probate Court of South Carolina through the issuance of multiple procedurally deficient incarceration orders. None of the four orders (**Exhibits 3, 5, 6 & 7**)—three sentencing the appellant to jail and an emergency release order—contained a case number, or a title, as required by **SCRCP Rule 58(a)**, rendering them facially defective. Additionally, these orders are absent from the court record, exacerbating confusion and undermining the court's authority. Under **Rule 58** further requires proper documentation and entry of judgments on the record to ensure their validity. These orders are not on the public record. Without proper case identification and record-keeping, these orders lack legal validity, raising serious concerns about the legitimacy of the

appellant's detention. Immediate review is necessary to correct these violations and uphold due process.

**South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 58(a)** mandates that every judgment contains a **case number**. The failure to include case numbers in the sentencing orders not only violates this rule but also leads to confusion and a lack of transparency in the legal process. These cases cannot be found on any public record. Without a case number, it is impossible to accurately trace the legal proceedings or to ensure that the orders are properly recorded in the court's docket. It is hard to fathom a scenario where a Judge is so incompetent to file an order without a case number out of ignorance. These orders are the result of **judicial vindictiveness**.

Using the estate case number of Doyle Elton Pierce, 2020-ES-37-00532, for summonses unrelated to that estate was procedurally improper and violated **SCRCP Rule 4** and **South Carolina Rule of Criminal Procedure Rule 3** (this is a criminal case held in a court that only has civil jurisdiction making it unclear which rules were to be followed), which governs the issuance and service of summonses, and **Canon 3(C)(1)**, which states a judge shall diligently discharge the judge's administrative responsibilities without prejudice. This misuse of case numbers improperly linked unrelated matters and obscured the nature of the proceedings against the appellant.

The appellant's incarceration without a case number or crime listed on the public record constitutes a grave violation of due process rights. According to the **Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution**, no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law. Incarcerating the appellant under the label "hold for probate court" (**Exhibit 8**) without any specified crime or case number on the public record is unlawful. The U.S. Supreme Court in **Hamdi v. Rumsfeld, 542 U.S. 507 (2004)**, held that even in cases involving national security, individuals detained by the government have the right to due process, including the right to be informed of the charges against them and to challenge their detention. The appellant's situation, where he was detained without a case number, crime, or proper legal documentation, clearly violates these due process principles.

Judge Singleton and the probate court exhibited a significant lack of competence during the proceedings on June 17 (**Page 6 Line 3, Page 12 Line 9, Page 14 Line 14, Page 15 Line 2, Page 39 Line 4, Page 41 Line 5, Page 42 Line 9, Page 43 Line 22, Page 56 Line 10, Page 60**

**Line 17, Page 62 Line 7, Page 79 line 7, Page 86 Line 2, Page 88 Line 12, Page 89 Line 2 and Page 90 Line 6).** This incompetence was evidenced by a demonstrable lack of understanding of applicable legal principles, the involvement of inadequately qualified personnel, and actions suggestive of judicial overreach and vindictiveness. These actions appear to reflect an inappropriate exercise of judicial authority.

#### **Arguments Regarding Issue 12, 13 & 14**

**The probate court erred by not considering or hearing Appellant Motion to Dismiss. The probate court erred in not granting requests made in the Memorandum on the Motion to Dismiss such as the requests for Judge Singleton to recuse himself, appointment of a special prosecutor, and to provide a jury trial. The probate court erred by verbally dismissing Appellant's Motion to Dismiss without an order of the court, reduced in writing and recorded with the clerk of probate court.**

The appellant filed a Motion to Dismiss accompanied by a Memorandum on the motion (**Exhibit 9**) before the June 17, 2024, criminal trial, which included several significant requests: a jury trial, recusal of the judge, and the appointment of a special prosecutor. The court expresses confusion about the Motion to Dismiss asking what it applies to (**Page 12 Line 9**). The Motion is clear that it applies to the only criminal contempt trial regarding the Appellant. It appears Judge Singleton either did not read the memorandum on the motion or did not understand it. The court's failure to consider or hear this motion in open court represents a serious violation of procedural fairness. According to **SCRCP Rule 12(b)**, motions to dismiss must be considered by the court, particularly when they involve fundamental issues such as the right to a jury trial or judicial impartiality. It is important to note that the Probate court lacks criminal jurisdiction. Although a Motion to Dismiss under **Rule 12(b)** is a civil motion, it was the only option that fell under the Probate jurisdiction.

It is standard practice for the trial judge of whom initiated a contempt action to recuse himself from conducting the adjudicative proceeding regarding such contempt allegation. Additionally, the Appellant made serious public allegations against Judge Singleton, enflaming the judge, driving him to issue the Rule to Show Cause *Sua Sponte*. "The trial judge should excuse himself from contempt proceedings where, because of personal attacks or other reasons, he would be unlikely to maintain the calm detachment necessary for fair adjudication." **Taylor v. Hayes, 418**

U.S. 488 (1974). See also, *Johnson v. Mississippi*, 403 U.S. 212 (1971); *Buchanan v. State*, 276 S.C. 127, 276 S.E.2d 302 (1981).

Pursuant to **Article I, Section 14 of the South Carolina Constitution**, which provides that "[a]ny person charged with an offense shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury," the South Carolina Rules of Criminal Procedure presuppose the right to a jury trial in criminal cases. The probates court's decision to proceed with the criminal trial without a jury, absent a valid waiver by the appellant, constitutes judicial overreach and violates the Appellants fundamental rights. The denial of the appellant's request for a jury trial requires reversal and a demand for a jury trial (**South Carolina Code of Laws Title 18-3-10**).

The verbal dismissal of the appellant's Motion to Dismiss, without issuing a written order or recording the decision with the Clerk of Probate Court, further violated the appellant's rights. **SCRCP Rule 58** mandates that every judgment must be set forth on a separate document and entered into the record. A verbal dismissal without a corresponding written order lacks the necessary legal formalities and transparency, making it impossible to challenge or appeal the decision. The absence of a written order or record also violates **Canon 3(C)(1) of the South Carolina Code of Judicial Conduct**, which requires judges to be diligent in their judicial duties and to ensure that all orders are promptly documented and recorded.

#### **Arguments Regarding Issue 20, 21, 23, 34 & 35**

**The probate court erred when Judge Singleton served as witness, prosecutor, investigator and judge, while acting as the Sua Sponte moving party, investigating the facts of the case prior to trial and by participating as a witness to material facts of the case and Judge. Judge Singleton improperly testified to material facts from the bench. Judge Singleton acted out of judicial vindictiveness or personal bias against Appellant.**

The probate court committed significant errors by allowing Judge Singleton to simultaneously serve as witness offering testimony (**Page 3 Line 7, Page 35 Line 16, Page 36 Line 18, Pages 51 through 53, Page 60 Line 16, Page 67 Line 11 through Page 68, Page 85 Line 10 and Page 86 Line 2**), prosecutor (**Pages 17 through 20 and Pages 24 through 30 and prepared witnesses for trial**), investigator (**Judge did not witness the events of May 24, instead gathered facts through *Ex Parte* Hearsay to establish a case**), and judge while acting as the

*sua sponte* moving party (**Exhibits 10 & 11**) in this case. This fundamentally undermined the fairness and impartiality required for judicial proceedings and violated the Appellant's constitutional rights to due process.

Due process mandates that a judge remain impartial, as established by the U.S. Supreme Court in **Tumey v. Ohio, 273 U.S. 510 (1927)**, and **Caperton v. A.T. Massey Coal Co., 556 U.S. 868 (2009)**. Judges cannot act as both a neutral decision-maker and an advocate or prosecutor within the same case. Judge Singleton, by initiating and prosecuting the Rule to Show Cause (RTSC) *sua sponte*, acted beyond his judicial role, improperly assuming the functions of the prosecutor. Furthermore, in **In re Murchison, 349 U.S. 133 (1955)**, the Court made clear that when a judge becomes involved as an accuser or witness, their impartiality is compromised, and due process is violated. In this case, Judge Singleton's actions went beyond mere adjudication; he actively participated in the prosecution of the Appellant, raising serious concerns about bias and judicial vindictiveness.

Judge Singleton witnessed material facts when he addressed the Appellant during recording and made the case about judicial vindictiveness instead of use of an electronic device. Judge Singleton then testified from the bench to what he witnessed (**Page 67 Line 11**). Judges are prohibited from becoming witnesses in cases they preside over, per **Canon 3(E)(1) of the Code of Judicial Conduct**, which requires disqualification where impartiality may be questioned. Judge Singleton violated this principle by introducing facts from his own knowledge and calling subordinates as witnesses. The Supreme Court's decision in **Murchison** emphasized that a judge testifying in their own court creates an intolerable conflict of interest.

The Appellant's assertion of judicial vindictiveness is supported by Judge Singleton's actions and statements, which indicate personal bias (See sentencing confusion, lack of adherence to Rule 501 and interest in Appellant's personal affairs, **Page 85 Line 16**). The ruling in **North Carolina v. Pearce, 395 U.S. 711 (1969)**, prohibits judicial decisions motivated by personal animosity (**Page 14 Line 14, Page 15 Line 6, Page 26 Line 6, Page 40 Line 11, Page 42 Line 1, Page 53 Line 18, Page 55 Line 21, Page 57 Line 3, Page 60 Line 17, Page 61 Line 4, Page 67 Line 16, Page 68 Line 17, Page 86 Line 2, Page 88 Line 12, Page 89 Line 21, Page 92 Line 14, Page 95 Line 6, and Page 96 Line 9**) or a desire to retaliate against a defendant. Judge Singleton repeatedly defended his reputation in response to the Appellant's public accusations and rejected

reasonable requests for a continuance and effective counsel, demonstrating a clear personal stake in the outcome of the case.

Judge Singleton erred by investigating facts prior to trial. He was well versed in occurrences he did not witness. **Canon 3(B)(7)** prohibits judges from engaging in *ex parte* communications or independently investigating the facts outside the confines of the court record. By gathering information from his clerks, requesting affidavits, and relying on such information in rendering decisions, Judge Singleton failed to uphold his duty as an impartial adjudicator.

#### **Arguments Regarding Issue 22**

**Judge Singleton deprived appellant of his rights when he declined to be cross examined, yet he was a material witness in Appellant's case.**

Judge Singleton deprived the Appellant of his constitutional rights by refusing to be cross-examined (**Page 85 Line 4**) while serving as a material witness (**Page 3 Line 7, Page 43 Line 22, Page 44 Line 8, Page 51 Line 12, Page 52 Line 1, Page 52 Line 13, Page 67 Line 11, Page 68 Line 3, Page 85 Line 10 and Page 86 Line 2**) in the trial. This denial violated the Appellant's Sixth Amendment right to confront and cross-examine witnesses, a cornerstone of due process in criminal proceedings. The U.S. Supreme Court in *Crawford v. Washington*, 541 U.S. 36 (2004), held that the Confrontation Clause of the Sixth Amendment guarantees a defendant the right to cross-examine any witnesses testifying against them. The right to cross-examine is not limited to traditional witnesses but extends to any individual providing testimony that influences the court's findings.

#### **Arguments Regarding Issue 16**

**The probate court erred in leading the public defender to believe this contempt rose out of a civil matter by using Doyle Elton Pierce's estate case number.**

Contempt of court, particularly direct criminal contempt, is inherently a criminal proceeding, regardless of the underlying civil nature of the case. Criminal contempt involves punitive measures such as incarceration, which triggers constitutional protections, including the right to counsel under the Sixth Amendment. In *Bloom v. Illinois*, 391 U.S. 194 (1968), a trial regarding criminal contempt in a probate court, the Supreme Court ruled that individuals facing serious

criminal contempt charges are entitled to the same constitutional protections as defendants in other criminal cases, including the right to a fair trial, due process, and counsel.

The Oconee County Probate court's decision to issue a summons using the case number from the Doyle Elton Pierce estate matter led to significant confusion, both for the probate court and the public defender. As the record shows, the public defender initially agreed to represent the Appellant because the matter was understood to be criminal in nature (**Exhibit 4**). However, after realizing the summons bore the estate case number, the public defender withdrew, stating that the matter was "civil contempt" rather than criminal (**Exhibit 12**). This misunderstanding arose directly from the incorrect use of the estate case number, which blurred the lines between civil and criminal proceedings. Judge Singleton states:

“No, this is not under the Doyle Pearce case. This is not under -- this is -- you may have attached a case number to it but this is your conduct, it has nothing to do with the estate of Doyle Pearce. This has -- this has to do with you recording on the date and time in question, recording at the Clerk's window, okay.” (**Page 14 Line 14**)

In the Appellants response to this statement, the Appellant corrected Judge Singleton reminding him “The summons you sent had Doyle Pearce's estate number”. Judge Singleton responded stating:

“It is associated somewhat with the case because you were here on the matter to allegedly pay an invoice for on the behalf of someone else. All right. But in reality, technically, that does not have anything to do with the Pierce estate. All right. At this time the Court is going to call Jessica Loman. Jess, Ms. Loman, step in please.”

Also see **Page 55 Line 20**. This error directly impacted the Appellant's ability to defend himself, constituting a violation of his due process rights under the Fourteenth Amendment. By failing to correct the erroneous perception that the matter was civil rather than criminal, the probate court deprived the Appellant of his right to counsel and a fair opportunity to prepare his defense, especially since he was not afforded adequate representation at trial.

### Arguments Regarding Issue 18

**The probate court erred by not posting the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order (SCSC AO) regarding Electronic Devices in Courthouses dated March 09, 2023, as directed in the order itself.**

The SCSC AO clearly mandates that the order "shall" be posted on the doors to the courthouse. The use of the term "shall" indicates that posting the order is not discretionary but rather a binding requirement. According to video evidence (**Exhibit 2**) and testimony, the probate court failed to post this order as required, violating the directive issued by the South Carolina Supreme Court. Failure to comply with this procedural obligation not only subjects the Probate Court to contempt in the Supreme Court of South Carolina, it undermines the enforceability of the order within that courthouse.

The purpose of requiring the posting of such orders is to ensure that individuals entering the courthouse are properly informed of restrictions on electronic devices. Courts routinely require notice to be provided to the public regarding orders, rules, and other directives that could lead to penal consequences. A court order affecting the public's conduct, particularly one that may result in criminal contempt or other penalties for noncompliance, must be posted as directed to ensure due process. The principle that one must be aware of a court order to be held accountable for violating it is fundamental to both criminal and civil jurisprudence. In **Walker v. City of Birmingham, 388 U.S. 307 (1967)**, the U.S. Supreme Court reinforced that a party must have notice of an order to be bound by it. This is no evidence the Appellant had notice of the SCSC AO.

In this case, **Frank v. Frank, 311 S.C. 454, 429 S.E.2d 823 (Ct. App. 1983)**, clearly states the finding of contempt by the probate court is incorrect. Here, the court reversed the finding of contempt against the husband, citing a lack of evidence that he had received proper notice of the restraining order he was accused of violating

I will draw the Court's attention to the fact that there is absolutely no evidence that this alleged act was perpetrated willfully, or with any manner of *mens rea* that the law of this state requires when a court is faced with determining whether or not to enter a finding of criminal culpability. The authority in South Carolina is clear: a citizen of South Carolina cannot be held in contempt

of an order that he did not willfully violate. See, **Ex Parte Kent**, 379 S.C. 633, 637, 667 S.E.2d 921 (Ct. App. 2008). Therefore, the probate court's enforcement of the electronic device prohibition was improper, and any related penalties imposed on the Appellant should be overturned.

### **Arguments Regarding Issue 22**

**Judge Singleton erred in bringing the Rule to Show Cause (RTSC) *Sua Sponte*, and then acting as the Judge.**

Judges are required to remain impartial and not become advocates in cases they are presiding over. When a judge initiates a RTSC *sua sponte*, it raises concerns about impartiality, particularly if the judge then presides over the same matter. The right to a fair trial includes the right to have a neutral and impartial decision-maker. If a judge both initiates and presides over a contempt proceeding, there are valid concerns that the judge is not neutral.

A central tenet of judicial ethics is that judges must remain neutral and impartial arbiters. When a judge initiates a Rule to Show Cause (RTSC) on their own, as Judge Singleton did in this case, they effectively take on the role of a party or advocate in the proceedings. This dual role of moving party and judge fundamentally compromises the fairness of the process and creates an appearance of bias, violating the standard of impartiality required by the **Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment**. See **Murchison**.

The appearance of bias alone can erode public confidence in the judicial system. The U.S. Supreme Court has consistently underscored that judges must avoid not only actual impropriety but also the appearance of impropriety to preserve trust in the judiciary. In **Liljeberg v. Health Services Acquisition Corp.**, 486 U.S. 847 (1988), the Court stated that the mere appearance of bias or partiality requires disqualification of a judge to protect the integrity of the judicial process.

By initiating the RTSC *sua sponte*, Judge Singleton's actions gave rise to an appearance that he was personally invested in the outcome of the case, which does lead a an objective observer to question his neutrality. Courts generally avoid situations where a judge's impartiality could reasonably be questioned, as seen in **Caperton v. A.T. Massey Coal Co.**, 556 U.S. 868 (2009),

where the Court emphasized the importance of avoiding even the perception of bias in judicial proceedings.

#### **Arguments Regarding Issue 25**

**The court erred in having Judge Singleton call witnesses that were also his court clerks [Subordinates].**

The core of judicial ethics is the requirement for impartiality. Judges are expected to be neutral arbiters, ensuring that the trial proceeds according to law and that the defendant receives a fair trial. When a judge, acting as prosecutor, calls and questions their subordinates, as in this case, it creates an appearance of bias and a clear conflict of interest. In calling Jessica Loman to the stand, Judge Singleton misspeaks and calls her Jess, showing the casual nature of their relationship (Page 15 Line 8). Mrs. Loman identifies her position in the probate court as a clerk of court (Page 17 Line 9). While Rule 614 of the Federal Rules of Evidence allows a judge to call and question witnesses, this power is limited and must be exercised cautiously. Judges must avoid appearing as advocates, and calling subordinates as witnesses crosses that line.

In this case, Judge Singleton's decision to call and question his clerks, especially in a proceeding he initiated, shows that he was acting more as an advocate than as a neutral decision-maker. This conduct violates the requirement that a judge be impartial and constitutes judicial overreach, further eroding the fairness of the trial.

#### **Arguments Regarding Issue 27**

**Judge Singleton erred by testifying from the bench.**

A judge's primary responsibility is to remain neutral and impartial while ensuring that both parties receive a fair trial. When a judge testifies (Page 35 Line 16 and Page 36 Line 18), even indirectly, to material facts in dispute, they undermine their role as an impartial decision-maker. Canon 3(E)(1) of the South Carolina Code of Judicial Conduct explicitly prohibits judges from adjudicating cases in which they have personal knowledge of disputed facts. By offering testimony from the bench, Judge Singleton breached this standard. Again, see **Murchison**. Even if Judge Singleton's comments were factually accurate, which they were not, they still create the appearance of bias. Canon 2 of the South Carolina Code of Judicial Conduct emphasizes that

judges must avoid not only actual impropriety but also the appearance of impropriety in their activities.

### **Arguments Regarding Issue 28**

**Judge Singleton erred by participating in *Ex Parte* conversations with witnesses and the public defender.**

**Canon 3(B)(7)** of the South Carolina Code of Judicial Conduct explicitly prohibits judges from engaging in *ex parte* communications concerning a pending or impending proceeding, except under limited and specific circumstances. Judge Singleton works with three of the witnesses, Mrs. Loman, Mrs. Bonadee and Judge Green, daily. For example, Judge Singleton is aware of the affidavit prepared by Mrs. Bonadee prior to the start of the trial (page 26 line 9 and Page 27 Line 3). The Appellant had not heard tell of or seen this affidavit prior to trial despite requesting all relevant documents, specifically requesting affidavits, from the court in an email Judge Singleton read out loud (**Lage 56 Line 15**). Again, in *Caperton v. A.T. Massey Coal Co., Inc.*, the U.S. Supreme Court emphasized that judges must avoid situations that pose a serious risk of actual bias or even the appearance of bias. *Ex parte* communications are especially problematic because they can easily suggest that the judge is acting with partiality or has been improperly influenced. For example, Judge Singleton walks Mrs. Loman through her testimony leading her to say “the clerk’s window”, as if asking her to recall a previous conversation (**Page 18 Lines 8 through 22**). When a judge has *ex parte* communications, particularly with individuals who are witnesses or parties in the case, the judge is obligated to recuse. Recusal is necessary to ensure the judge remains neutral and that the parties trust the fairness of the proceedings.

Relying on hearsay from a witness or engaging in *ex parte* conversations, especially when the judge continues to preside over the case, violates the parties’ due process rights. Judicial misconduct occurs when a judge allows extrajudicial information to influence the proceedings. Such actions should result in disciplinary measures against the judge, as they represent a serious breach of judicial ethics.

### **Arguments Regarding Issue 30**

**The probate court err in not holding a trial for the events of May 29,2024.**

Due process requires that before a defendant can be convicted and sentenced for any offense, the state must provide notice of the charges, an opportunity to be heard, and a fair trial. In **In re Winship, 397 U.S. 358 (1970)**, the U.S. Supreme Court held that the due process clause requires the prosecution to prove beyond a reasonable doubt every fact necessary to constitute the crime with which a defendant is charged. The court must offer the accused the opportunity to present evidence, challenge the state's case, and defend themselves against the charges. The absence of a trial for the events of May 29, 2024, is a clear violation of these fundamental principles. The Appellant was sentenced to 10 days in jail with no semblance of due process in a gross gesture of Judicial Vindictiveness.

The ambiguity in the sentencing order of May 29, 2024, further highlights the lack of integrity in the probate court's proceedings. When the probate court sentenced the appellant for the events of May 24 and 29, without holding a trial specifically addressing these actions of May 29, the court acted unlawfully. The orders issued by the court reference both May 24 and May 29, but they fail to clearly delineate whether the sentencing is attributable to each separate event. Such lack of clarity compounds the violation of the appellant's rights and clearly shows judicial overreach.

In **North Carolina v. Pearce, 395 U.S. 711 (1969)**, the Supreme Court held that sentencing must be free of judicial vindictiveness. The court clearly states that fear of judicial vindictiveness can influence the actions of parties, disrupting the pursuit of justice. Sentences imposed without a trial, particularly when motivated by judicial frustration or bias, violate the principles of fair justice.

### **Arguments Regarding Issue 31**

**The Probate Court erred by sentencing Appellant twice for the same crime.**

The sentencing order of May 29 references both the events of May 29 and May 24, creating confusion about the basis for the sentence. Since it mentions both dates and involves a criminal sentence, it seems the sentence might be for a combination of alleged offenses. However, the only criminal trial held was on June 17, concerning only the events of May 24 (Page 70 Line 16 and Page 73 Line 5), where the appellant was sentenced to 50 days.

Complicating matters, a mistrial occurred on June 5, where the appellant was sentenced to 60 days. During the June 17 sentencing, Judge Singleton reflected on this, stating:

"At this time I'm going to give you some grace... instead of the 60 days that you originally had, taking into account that you'd already been sentenced to the 10 days... I'm giving you that credit, that is grace that I'm giving you knowing that I could have given you up to six months." (Page 90 Line 6)

This suggests the judge believed the 60-day sentence replaced the original 10-day sentence, indicating he viewed the total sentence as 60 days for one offense rather than separate sentences for different crimes. The judge also placed blame on the appellant, saying:

"You've not believed most anything that I've said regardless. You have tried to demean me in every way... But probate is not complicated. That's the difference." (Page 89 Line 21)

In the sentencing, he further remarked:

"So therefore you're going to be sentenced to serve a period of 50 days in the county jail." (Page 90 Line 23)

The judge's logic seems to combine the 10-day and 60-day sentences into one, with the remaining 50 days as the sentence. This indicates Judge Singleton was sentencing the appellant a second time for the same crime, violating the **Fifth Amendment, Article I, Section 12 of the South Carolina Constitution and South Carolina Title 17-23-20; Double Jeopardy Clauses.**

### **Arguments Regarding Issue 32**

The Probate Court violated the Appellant's Miranda rights as established in *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436 (1966), by failing to inform the Appellant of their right to counsel and their right against self-incrimination during the June 17 trial. The Appellant was not advised that they could obtain a public defender or that they had the right to remain silent, which are fundamental protections required by *Miranda* before any custodial interrogation or legal proceedings that could result in criminal penalties. Additionally, while incarcerated, the Appellant was questioned by police regarding ineffective counsel in the June 5 trial without being informed of their Miranda rights. These omissions constitute a serious violation of the Appellant's constitutional rights, undermining the fairness and legitimacy of the trial and subsequent conviction. As a

result, the violation of Miranda rights in this case warrants a reversal of the conviction and a dismissal of all charges.

### **Arguments Regarding Issue 33**

**The probate court erred by including Richard Hunt McDuff improperly in the proceedings and *Ex Parte* conversations.**

The probate court erred by improperly including Richard Hunt McDuff in the proceedings of June 5 by facilitating him sitting at the prosecutor's table. McDuff's presence at the prosecutor's bench, and his nonverbal communications with Judge Singleton, during the June 5 mistrial raise concerns about potential conflicts of interest and judicial bias. McDuff's role as an attorney in the Doyle Pierce Estate case, which Judge Singleton acknowledged as being "somewhat associated" with the Appellant's case, creates a significant appearance of impropriety.

Furthermore, during the appellant's emergency release hearing on July 17, McDuff's consultations with Judge Singleton and his attorney, Jim Logan, regarding the Doyle Pierce Estate case clearly constitute *Ex Parte* communications. These improper interactions undermine the integrity of the proceedings. McDuff's involvement in the appellant's case, despite having no direct legal standing, raises serious concerns about the nature of his relationship with Judge Singleton, especially considering McDuff's long-standing dispute with the appellant's fiancé. The apparent collaboration between Judge Singleton and McDuff "off the books" strongly suggests judicial vindictiveness.

### **Arguments Regarding Issue 36**

**The probate court erred by allowing improper hearsay testimony despite objections.**

Mrs. Bonadee produced an affidavit that recounted her version of a phone call made by the appellant to the probate court. During the proceedings, Judge Singleton asked a leading question, "Did you receive a phone call from anyone on June the 11th of 2024?" to which she replied, "Yes." The appellant objected, citing hearsay (**Page 26 Line 6**) under **South Carolina Rule of Evidence 801**, which defines hearsay as an out-of-court statement offered in evidence to prove the truth of the matter asserted. However, Judge Singleton ignored the objection and continued

questioning Mrs. Bonadee. He then allowed her to read the affidavit that he had requested, disregarding the fact that her testimony was clearly hearsay.

Later in the trial, Judge Singleton addressed the events of October 24 and the appellant's response to them, despite not having witnessed the events himself. He stated:

"I am going to address a couple things, and some of it's going to be repeated from the last hearing. You allege that I accused you of breaking the law and tried to illegally kick you out of the probate court and then later denied it. I will once again state on the record now that I informed you to leave that day, and later on, I will inform you that I never denied it. So I don't know where you got that information from. But I think, like I told you at the last hearing, that your lie is not everyone else's truth. That never happened. You want to twist words. We had an associate judge speaking with somebody about a probate matter concerning the completion of forms. You interrupted that judge and informed that person, 'Don't listen to them; they don't know what they're doing; come outside and speak to my wife; she knows everything about probate.'" (Page 51 Line 10)

The appellant objected to this as hearsay, invoking SC Rule 801, but Judge Singleton responded:

"Sir, I'm telling you what -- I'm just telling you that you -- the hearsay that I -- that I kicked you out illegally and then later lied about it, you -- was that hearsay on your part? That's previously what happened. You're making false statements, okay. All right, you're liable in putting false statements and lies about a public official in print, and then it's slanderous and liable when you video it saying the same things, knowing that it's not true." (Page 52 Line 9)

Despite the appellant's objections under Rule 801, the judge continued to ignore the request to remove hearsay information from the record. Additionally, it seems that the judge was unable to differentiate between hearsay in a public conversation and hearsay within the courtroom, as defined by SC Rule 801.

### **Arguments Regarding Issue 37**

**Judge Singleton erred by not maintaining the necessary calm required for ethical adjudication during his interactions with Appellant and during June 17, 2024, trial.**

On or about June 12, the appellant requested to speak with Judge Singleton to prepare for their upcoming criminal trial. Before presenting himself, Judge Singleton called the Oconee County Sheriff's Department to have officers present during the conversation and attempted to have the appellant removed from the courtroom lobby before the appellant could get answers to their questions and finalize document requests. Officer Stokes, who was present for this interaction, also testified during the June 17 trial, stating that he had never seen the appellant act irrationally (Page 65 Line 3) or display an agitated temperament (Page 66 Line 13). When asked about Judge Singleton's temperament, Officer Stokes declined to answer, apparently out of concern for the judge's reaction.

During the trial, Judge Singleton testified from the bench, stating:

"I can save you trouble with that. The Court will admit, yes, I -- you agitated me. And I wanted you to leave. You had no other filings. I'll consent to that. I asked you to leave, you refused to leave. I asked you if you had any filings, you had no filings. I asked officers twice to escort you out, and both times I believe that they were appearing to be somewhat passive because they don't want controversy with people. And I get that. And I finally told you, hold on, give me about five minutes and then later on within that five minutes I became aware that you left and then the issue was done. So if that's what you're wanting to try to get at, I never misspoke to you, never said a harsh word. Was I agitated somewhat, absolutely. You were here most daily, again, I asked you if you were trying to intimate the Court and then you turned around and accused me that I'm threatening to have you arrested for intimidation of the Court when that wasn't said. What was said I asked if you were attempting to intimidate the Court, all right. So if that's the line of questioning, you know, I -- I'll -- I'll admit, yes, was I somewhat agitated, yes." (Page 67 Line 11)

Several issues arise from Judge Singleton's admission of being agitated with the appellant. First, he requested the officers to remove the appellant without cause, despite the appellant's efforts to prepare for court, which is a reasonable activity. Judge Singleton noted that the appellant was there "almost daily," yet the criminal trial was scheduled with only 11 days' notice. The appellant visited the court two or three times—once to learn how to make records requests and a second time to pick up documents and speak with the judge—both reasonable actions under the

circumstances. During trial, Judge Singleton uses the Appellants efforts to prepare for trial to attack his character, questioning if he has a job and claiming he was at the probate court “most every day this week, a few times last week” (Page 53 Line 15). He further states “if you have a job I don’t know how in the world you’re able to maintain it if you’re here all the time.” The Appellant was released from jail from the first fraudulent sentence on June 6 and was preparing for the first trial of his life on June 17.

During the first visit the Appellant made to the probate court after his release on June 6, the appellant requested that all conversations between him and the court be recorded since he was not allowed to record himself. The Appellant was legitimately concerned that the court would be dishonest about the interactions. In one recording, while the appellant was asking Judge Singleton questions about the upcoming trial and accountability at the clerk's window, the judge asked if the appellant was attempting to intimidate the court (Page 68, Line 3). The appellant, who was not doing anything that could be perceived as intimidating, felt that this question was a threat, as if Judge Singleton was searching for additional charges to bring against him. During the June 17 criminal trial, Judge Singleton directly accused the Appellant of intimidating the court (Page 60 Line 17), validating the Appellants concerns of the probate court fabricating crimes. Fortunately, the entire conversation was recorded.

**South Carolina Code of Judicial Conduct, Canon 3**, requires judges to perform their duties with impartiality and without bias, maintaining a calm and composed demeanor at all times. Judge Singleton’s actions violate this ethical standard, raising grave concerns about whether he maintained the necessary calm required for ethical adjudication.

### **Arguments Regarding Issue 38**

**Judge Singleton erred by holding animosity against Appellant due to his relationship with Mrs. Pierce, Appellant’s public accusations that Judge Singleton is unintelligent and corrupt, and his willingness to assert his rights.**

Judge Singleton had engaged in lengthy email exchanges with the appellant’s fiancé, Mrs. Pierce, concerning a contested estate. During these exchanges, Mrs. Pierce corrected Judge Singleton on matters of law, which seemed to strain their professional relationship. Judge Singleton had previously held Mrs. Pierce in contempt of court for insisting that the court adhere to the law

during proceedings. Judge Singleton signed was advocating for an order to distribute assets of the Doyle Pierce Estate prior to the payment of estate debts, in violation of probate procedure. Mrs. Pierce, in open court, demanded the debts be paid first in accordance with the law and was held in contempt for this statement in a clear act of judicial vindictiveness. After this, in October of 2023, the appellant further aggravated the judge by delivering a copy of a filed notice of appeal on behalf of his fiancé. Judge Singleton responded by sending a defamatory email regarding the Appellant to third parties that did not include the Appellant.

The appellant recorded himself at the clerk's window publicly accusing Judge Singleton of lacking the necessary education and intelligence to perform his judicial duties properly. This criticism clearly upset Judge Singleton, who spent a significant portion of the June 5 and 17 proceedings defending his reputation and character (Page 51 Line 12, Page 52 Line 21 and Page 53 Line 11). During the trial of June 17, Judge Singleton repeatedly stated that the appellant's dealings with the court were over (Page 89 Line 9), despite the appellant not willingly violating any orders but instead exercising his legal rights.

The actions of Judge Singleton indicate that he harbored animosity against the appellant due to the appellant's relationship with Mrs. Pierce, his public criticisms of the judge, and his assertiveness in exercising his rights. This raises concerns under **South Carolina Canon 3**, which requires judges to perform their duties without bias or partiality and to maintain the appearance of impartiality.

Furthermore, the U.S. Supreme Court case **Caperton v. A.T. Massey Coal Co., Inc.**, establishes that even the appearance of bias or prejudice by a judge can violate a party's right to a fair trial. In Caperton, the Court held that due process requires a judge to recuse themselves when there is a significant risk of actual bias, based on objective and reasonable perceptions.

In light of Caperton and South Carolina Canon 3, Judge Singleton's actions, which suggest personal animosity towards the appellant, raise serious concerns about the fairness and impartiality of the proceedings. These actions warrant scrutiny because the judge's conduct compromised the appellant's right to a fair trial.

#### **Arguments Regarding Issue 45**

**Judge Singleton erred in requesting Appellant to destroy evidence on May 29, 2024.**

On May 29, 2024, Judge Singleton presented the appellant with the ultimatum to either erase video evidence on his phone or face contempt charges. This is admitted by Judge Singleton in the Sentencing Order of May 29 and in the transcript on (Page 3 Line 9). This directive raises significant legal concerns, particularly regarding the preservation of evidence and the potential for obstruction of justice.

Under South Carolina law and court rules, the destruction or alteration of evidence is generally impermissible, as it may constitute spoliation of evidence, which is the intentional destruction or alteration of relevant evidence. In **Silvestri v. General Motors Corp.**, 271 F.3d 583 (4th Cir. 2001), the court held that the destruction of evidence relevant to potential litigation can result in severe sanctions, including dismissal of claims or defenses. Furthermore, **South Carolina Rule of Civil Procedure 37(b)** allows courts to impose sanctions for the destruction of evidence, emphasizing the importance of preserving evidence that may be pertinent to a case.

The appellant's concern that erasing the video evidence could lead to false accusations of aggression or other crimes is valid, as the destruction of evidence may hinder the appellant's ability to defend against such charges. Additionally, ordering the destruction of potentially exculpatory evidence violates the appellant's due process rights under the Fourteenth Amendment, as recognized in **Brady v. Maryland**, 373 U.S. 83 (1963), which requires the preservation and disclosure of evidence favorable to the defense.

#### **Arguments Regarding Issue 15**

**The probate court erred by not giving the appellant a fair opportunity to present his case and respond to the allegations against him.**

The court's failure to allow sufficient time to obtain proper counsel violated the standard of fairness set forth in **Powell v. Alabama**, 287 U.S. 45 (1932), which requires courts to give defendants reasonable time and opportunity to secure adequate representation, particularly in complex or serious matters. When Judge Singleton testified from the bench and effectively became the key witness against the Appellant, the Appellant should have been permitted to cross-examine him, as required by **Crawford v. Washington**, 541 U.S. 36 (2004). Additionally, the denial of the opportunity to cross-examine the primary witness violates the due process

protections guaranteed by *Pointer v. Texas*, 380 U.S. 400 (1965), and contributes to the overall unfairness of the proceedings.

#### **Arguments Regarding Issue 40**

**The South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order (SCSC AO) regarding Electronic Devices in Courthouses dated March 09, 2023, violates the US Constitution amendment rights.**

The public lobby of the probate court is a public space within a public building, which clearly falls under the protections of the First Amendment. Case law supports that recording in public spaces is a constitutionally protected activity. The SCSC AO, however, prohibits the use of electronic devices without distinguishing between types of devices or the nature of their use. This blanket restriction infringes upon First Amendment rights, particularly when the activity does not disrupt court proceedings or infringe on privacy.

The order authorizes the confiscation of electronic devices without due process, clearly violating the Fourth Amendment's protection against unreasonable searches and seizures. Additionally, the lack of guidelines regarding what constitutes a violation and the appropriate punishment for different infractions creates a risk of arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement, raising concerns under the Fourteenth Amendment's guarantees of due process and equal protection.

The SCSC AO's failure to differentiate between actions that disrupt court proceedings and those that do not, combined with the broad discretion it grants to judges, risks turning the order into a tool for judicial overreach, as occurred here. It is the Defendant's position that the instant contempt action is void, ab initio. "One cannot be held in contempt for violating an order that was void ab initio for lack of jurisdiction." *Arnal v. Fraser*, 371 S.C. 124, 241 S.E.2d 409 (1978).

#### **Arguments Regarding Issue 41**

**The South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order (SCSC AO) regarding Electronic Devices in Courthouses dated March 09, 2023, which essentially acts as law, is a violation of Articles I and III of the US constitution.**

The SCSC AO raises significant constitutional issues regarding the separation of powers and the appropriate role of the judiciary. The order, which applies to the general public in a public space, functions similarly to legislative law by regulating behavior and imposing potential criminal penalties, including incarceration. This raises concerns under Articles I and III of the U.S. Constitution, which delineate the distinct roles of the legislative and judicial branches.

Article I of the US Constitution vests legislative powers in Congress, while Article III grants judicial power to the courts. By issuing an administrative order that broadly applies to the public and carries punitive consequences, the judiciary is overstepping its constitutional authority, effectively creating law—a function reserved for the legislative branch. The order does not arise from case law or a specific legal proceeding but rather through a vote of the judges.

The order's failure to distinguish between actions that disrupt court proceedings or infringe on privacy and other harmless behaviors exacerbates the constitutional issue. A more narrowly tailored order, addressing specific disruptions or privacy concerns, might have a stronger legal foundation. However, as it stands, the SCSC AO violates the separation of powers doctrine by functioning as a legislative act, which is beyond the jurisdiction of the judicial branch.

“Disobedience of a void order or one that is issued by a judge without jurisdiction is not contempt.” State ex rel.

### **Prayer for Relief**

Wherefore, the Appellant respectfully requests that this Court grant the following relief:

1. **Reverse and Vacate Conviction:** Reverse the conviction for direct criminal contempt issued by the Probate Court on June 17, 2024, and vacate the related sentencing order due to procedural errors, violations of constitutional rights, and the Probate Court’s lack of jurisdiction to conduct criminal proceedings.
2. **Dismissal of All Charges:** Dismiss all charges against the Appellant, including the Rule to Show Cause orders and any associated contempt findings, as they stem from actions outside the jurisdiction of the Probate Court and were based on flawed legal procedures and judicial vindictiveness.

3. **Expungement of Records:** Order the expungement of any criminal records related to this case, including the May 29, 2024, and June 17, 2024, orders, to clear the Appellant's record of any reference to these proceedings, assuming these cases were ever put on the record in the first place.
4. **Declaration of Unconstitutional Order:** Declare the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order regarding Electronic Devices in Courthouses, dated March 09, 2023, unconstitutional as applied to the Appellant's case, and nullify any penalties imposed under this order.
5. **Award of Costs:** Grant the Appellant an award of costs associated with this appeal, as the underlying proceedings were conducted with judicial overreach and lacked adherence to proper legal standards.
6. **Further Relief:** Grant any further relief that the Court deems just and proper in light of the gross judicial overreach, procedural deficiencies, and violations of the Appellant's constitutional rights in this case.

Respectfully Submitted, this August <sup>20</sup>~~19~~, 2024.



DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D., Appellant

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THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE OCONEE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
APPEAL FROM THE PROBATE COURT  
TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
The Order of Judge Danny Singleton  
CASE NO: 2024-CP-3700451

JASON MICHAEL BOYLE-----Appellant,

V.

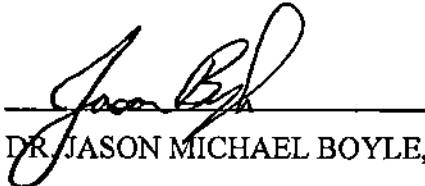
DANNY SINGLETON, "et al" -----Respondents

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this August 20, 2024, a copy of the Appeal Brief was delivered to the following parties:

1. Jim Logan: [logan@loganandjolly.com](mailto:logan@loganandjolly.com)  
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4. Oconee County Supervisor: [district2@oconeesc.com](mailto:district2@oconeesc.com)  
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Respectfully Submitted, this August 20, 2024.



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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF OCONEE

JASON BOYLE

vs.

DANNY SINGLETON, ET AL.

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT

2024 AUG 27 A 10:15

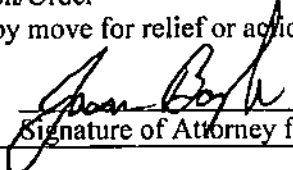
IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

CASE NO.: 2024-CP-37-00451

MOTION AND ORDER INFORMATION  
FORM AND COVERSHEET

Plaintiff,

Defendant.

Plaintiff's Attorney: PRO SE, Bar No. _____ Address: 750 MOURNING DOVE LANE SENECA, SC 29678 Phone: _____ Fax _____ E-mail: _____ Other: _____	Defendant's Attorney: _____, Bar No. _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Fax _____ E-mail: _____ Other: _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOTION HEARING REQUESTED (attach written motion and complete SECTIONS I and III) <input type="checkbox"/> FORM MOTION, NO HEARING REQUESTED (complete SECTIONS II and III) <input type="checkbox"/> PROPOSED ORDER/CONSENT ORDER (complete SECTIONS II and III)	
<b>SECTION I: Hearing Information</b>	
Nature of Motion: MOTION/SANCTIONS Estimated Time Needed: 15MINS      Court Reporter Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES / <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
<b>SECTION II: Motion/Order Type</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written motion attached <input type="checkbox"/> Form Motion/Order I hereby move for relief or action by the court as set forth in the attached proposed order.	
Signature of Attorney for <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plaintiff / <input type="checkbox"/> Defendant 	Date submitted 8/27/2024
<b>SECTION III: Motion Fee</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PAID - AMOUNT: \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> EXEMPT: (check reason)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rule to Show Cause in Child or Spousal Support <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Abuse or Abuse and Neglect <input type="checkbox"/> Indigent Status <input type="checkbox"/> State Agency v. Indigent Party <input type="checkbox"/> Sexually Violent Predator Act <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Conviction Relief <input type="checkbox"/> Motion for Stay in Bankruptcy <input type="checkbox"/> Motion for Publication <input type="checkbox"/> Motion for Execution (Rule 69, SCRCF) <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed order submitted at request of the court; or, reduced to writing from motion made in open court per judge's instructions Name of Court Reporter: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
<b>JUDGE'S SECTION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Motion Fee to be paid upon filing of the attached order. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	JUDGE CODE _____ Date: _____
<b>CLERK'S VERIFICATION</b>	
Collected by: AWATKINS      Date Filed: _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOTION FEE COLLECTED: \$ 25.00 CASH <input type="checkbox"/> CONTESTED - AMOUNT DUE: \$ _____	

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT  
2024 AUG 27 A 10:15

ENTERED  
COMPUTER

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE OCONEE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
APPEAL FROM THE PROBATE COURT  
TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
The Order of Judge Danny Singleton  
CASE NO: 2024-CP-3700451

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT  
2024 AUG 27 A 10:15

JASON MICHAEL BOYLE-----Appellant,

V.

DANNY SINGLETON, "et al" -----Respondents

**MOTION FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST JUDGE DANNY SINGLETON**

COMES NOW, Jason Michael Boyle, Appellant, and submits this Motion for Sanctions against Judge Danny Singleton. This motion is not a mere request for procedural rectification—it is a demand for accountability in the face of severe and undeniable judicial misconduct that has violated the very core of the legal principles that uphold our justice system.

**I. Factual Background**

**1. Flagrant Judicial Overreach:**

Judge Danny Singleton's actions in this case go beyond the pale of acceptable judicial conduct—they constitute an outright abuse of power. Judge Singleton enforced the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order dated March 9, 2023, which was never properly served or posted as required. The order explicitly mandates that it "shall" be posted on the courthouse doors—a mandate that Judge Singleton flagrantly ignored. This failure to post the order, as required, led directly to my illegal incarceration without any knowledge or notice of the alleged violations. Judge Singleton's disregard for this fundamental requirement obliterated any semblance of due process.

ENTERED  
COMPUTER

## **2. Jurisdictional Usurpation:**

Judge Singleton did not stop at enforcing an unserved and unposted order; he dragged the Oconee County Probate Court into criminal territory where it had no jurisdiction. Probate courts in South Carolina are confined to estate matters—they have no authority over criminal contempt proceedings. Judge Singleton's actions represent a gross violation of jurisdictional boundaries, making a mockery of the legal system.

## **3. Legal Farce in Case Numbers:**

Judge Singleton's judicial malpractice is further highlighted by his use of the Doyle Pierce estate case number for the Rule to Show Cause (RTSC)—a blatant misapplication given that the contempt charges had nothing to do with that estate. Worse still, the three sentencing orders that followed had no case numbers at all—a procedural blunder so severe it borders on legal farce. I was detained for 40 days under orders that lacked even the most basic legal requirement—a case number—undermining due process entirely. Judge Singleton himself admitted in open court, not once, but twice, that this case had nothing to do with the Doyle Pierce estate, yet he proceeded to misuse the estate case number. This absence of case numbers renders the orders not only invalid but utterly indefensible under any standard of legal scrutiny.

## **4. Judge Singleton: Judge, Jury, and Executioner:**

Judge Singleton didn't just overstep; he obliterated any semblance of impartiality. Acting as the *sua sponte* moving party, the victim, the prosecutor, and a key witness in the proceedings, he fused these roles into a grotesque parody of justice. This egregious blending of roles rendered any notion of a fair trial impossible. Judge Singleton's conduct is a textbook example of why unchecked judicial power is so dangerous.

## **5. Systematic Violations of Constitutional Rights:**

Judge Singleton's actions are not just unethical—they are unconstitutional. I was denied due process, deprived of legal representation, and subjected to a sham trial where Judge Singleton had already decided the outcome. His conduct has no place in any court of law and raises serious questions about his fitness to serve on the bench.

## **II. Legal Argument**

**Canon 3D(1) of the South Carolina Code of Judicial Conduct** mandates that a judge who becomes aware of another judge's misconduct, especially when it raises questions about that judge's fitness for office, must report it. The misconduct in this case is not just apparent; it is undeniable. Judge Singleton's actions grossly violate the principles of judicial conduct, and they demand immediate, decisive action.

### **III. Specific Violations of SCRPC Rule 501 by Judge Danny Singleton**

#### **1. Defamation and Unlawful Banning from Court:**

- **Violation:** Judge Singleton issued an email accusing me of illegally offering legal advice and banned me from the probate court without due process, in blatant violation of **Canon 2A** and **Canon 3B(2)**.
- **Details:** The defamatory email was sent to uninterested parties, based on hearsay, and was entirely devoid of direct observation. This unlawful banishment violated my due process rights and exemplifies Judge Singleton's abuse of judicial power. **Canon 2A** emphasizes that a judge must act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary. Judge Singleton's actions here were anything but impartial or confidence-inspiring. **Canon 3B(2)** requires that a judge uphold the law—by issuing this ban without due process, Judge Singleton flouted the very legal standards he is sworn to uphold.

#### **2. Retaliation for Exercising Free Speech:**

- **Violation:** Judge Singleton retaliated against me for exercising my First Amendment rights by unlawfully incarcerating me for contempt without trial, violating **Canon 2A** and **Canon 3B(5)**.
- **Details:** My incarceration for recording a video in a public lobby—an act protected by the First Amendment—was motivated purely by Judge Singleton's personal animosity, with no legal justification. **Canon 2A** demands impartiality, yet Judge Singleton's actions were driven by personal vendetta rather than the law. **Canon 3B(5)** requires that a judge perform judicial duties without bias or prejudice. Judge Singleton's retaliatory actions demonstrate a complete disregard for this essential ethical requirement.

### **3. Improper Jurisdiction and Criminal Prosecution:**

- **Violation:** Judge Singleton exceeded his jurisdiction by prosecuting me for direct criminal contempt, a matter far outside the scope of probate court authority, violating **Canon 2A** and **Canon 3B(2)**.
- **Details:** The probate court is a court of limited jurisdiction, with no authority over criminal matters. Judge Singleton's decision to preside over a criminal contempt proceeding was a gross overstep and a clear violation of the law. **Canon 2A** mandates that a judge must respect and comply with the law to maintain public confidence in the judiciary. By usurping authority that he did not possess, Judge Singleton shattered any semblance of legal propriety. **Canon 3B(2)** reinforces that a judge must be faithful to the law and not act beyond their legal authority. Judge Singleton's conduct here shows a blatant disregard for these core principles.

### **4. Failure to Provide Notice of Administrative Order:**

- **Violation:** Judge Singleton violated **Canon 2A** and **Canon 3B(7)** by failing to ensure that the Administrative Order regarding electronic devices was posted as required, depriving me of proper notice.
- **Details:** Without this notice, I could not have known about the restrictions imposed by the order. Judge Singleton's failure to post the order on the courthouse doors, as mandated, rendered any enforcement against me unlawful and stripped me of any opportunity to comply, thereby making the resulting incarceration a grave injustice. **Canon 2A** emphasizes the importance of judicial integrity and public confidence—both of which are eroded when orders are not properly served or posted. **Canon 3B(7)** requires that a judge provide necessary notice and adhere to procedural requirements to ensure fairness. Judge Singleton's disregard for these mandates resulted in a fundamental violation of my rights.

### **5. Abuse of Judicial Power:**

- **Violation:** Judge Singleton abused his power by demanding I destroy video evidence and by incarcerating me without a proper legal basis, violating **Canon 3B(2)** and **Canon 2A**.

- **Details:** On May 29, 2024, Judge Singleton’s order to delete video evidence was not only unethical but also illegal, constituting an obstruction of justice and evidence tampering. **Canon 3B(2)** obliges a judge to follow the law, which Judge Singleton blatantly ignored by attempting to destroy evidence and incarcerate me without legal grounds. **Canon 2A** emphasizes the necessity of maintaining public confidence in the judiciary—confidence that is obliterated when a judge misuses his power to manipulate evidence and violate due process.

#### **6. Denial of Right to Counsel and Due Process:**

- **Violation:** Judge Singleton denied me the right to legal representation by refusing to grant a continuance, forcing me to proceed without counsel, in violation of **Canon 3B(4)** and **Canon 3B(2)**.
- **Details:** Despite having an approved application for a public defender, Judge Singleton denied a continuance, forcing me to represent myself in a criminal contempt proceeding—a clear violation of my Sixth Amendment rights. **Canon 3B(4)** requires that a judge afford every person who has a legal interest in a proceeding the right to be heard according to law. By denying me this right, Judge Singleton compromised the fairness of the entire process. **Canon 3B(2)** once again demands adherence to the law, which Judge Singleton ignored by denying my basic constitutional rights.

#### **7. Issuance of Orders Without Case Numbers:**

- **Violation:** Judge Singleton issued multiple orders, including sentencing orders, without case numbers, violating **Canon 3B(1)** and **Canon 3C(1)**.
- **Details:** These orders, lacking the most basic legal formalities, effectively made me an undocumented prisoner, without any legitimate legal basis for my detention. The complete absence of case numbers on these orders not only violated procedural rules but also rendered these orders legally void, further compounding the miscarriage of justice. **Canon 3B(1)** obliges judges to diligently discharge their administrative responsibilities and maintain order in proceedings. By failing to include case numbers, Judge Singleton demonstrated gross negligence and disregard for the integrity of judicial records. **Canon**

3C(1) requires that a judge maintain professional competence in judicial administration— Judge Singleton’s failure here is a stark violation of this requirement.

#### **8. Improper Role as Prosecutor and Judge:**

- **Violation:** Judge Singleton acted as both prosecutor and judge in the contempt proceedings, violating **Canon 3E(1)** and **Canon 2A**.
- **Details:** By serving as the moving party, prosecutor, witness, victim and judge, Judge Singleton obliterated any semblance of impartiality, turning the proceedings into a farce of justice. **Canon 3E(1)** mandates disqualification in any proceeding where a judge’s impartiality might reasonably be questioned. Judge Singleton’s refusal to recuse himself, despite his multiple conflicting roles, demonstrates a clear violation of this Canon. **Canon 2A** further supports the principle that justice must not only be done but must be seen to be done—Judge Singleton’s actions made a mockery of this essential judicial standard.

#### **9. Ex Parte Communications and Witness Coaching:**

- **Violation:** Judge Singleton engaged in *ex parte* communications and coached his subordinates, violating **Canon 3B(7)** and **Canon 2A**.
- **Details:** These actions destroyed any chance of a fair trial, as Judge Singleton’s biases were clearly reflected in his interactions with witnesses and his overall handling of the case. **Canon 3B(7)** explicitly prohibits a judge from engaging in *ex parte* communications concerning a pending or impending proceeding. Judge Singleton’s disregard for this rule compromised the integrity of the trial. **Canon 2A** emphasizes that judges must act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the judiciary. By engaging in *ex parte* communications and coaching witnesses, Judge Singleton shattered this confidence and violated fundamental judicial ethics.

#### **10. Judicial Vindictiveness and Bias:**

- **Violation:** Judge Singleton displayed judicial vindictiveness, imposing harsh sentences and making biased statements in retaliation for my public criticism, violating **Canon 3E(1)** and **Canon 2A**.

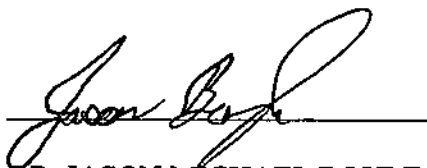
- **Details:** Judge Singleton’s actions were driven by personal animosity, not legal reasoning. His refusal to recuse himself despite this bias was a gross violation of my right to an impartial hearing. **Canon 3E(1)** demands that a judge disqualify himself in any proceeding where his impartiality might reasonably be questioned. Judge Singleton’s actions, motivated by personal vendetta, violated this Canon and destroyed any semblance of fairness in the proceedings. **Canon 2A** reinforces the need for judges to act without bias or prejudice—Judge Singleton’s vindictiveness in this case is a flagrant breach of this fundamental principle.

#### **IV. Prayer for Relief**

WHEREFORE, I respectfully demand that this Court:

1. **Impose Immediate Sanctions:** Against Judge Danny Singleton for his flagrant violations of SCRPC Rule 501, including disqualification from any further involvement in this or any related cases.
2. **Vacate All Related Orders:** Issued by Judge Singleton in this matter, due to his clear bias, improper conduct, and lack of jurisdiction.
3. **Initiate a Judicial Inquiry:** To investigate the full extent of Judge Singleton’s misconduct and determine appropriate disciplinary action, including possible removal from the bench.
4. **Provide Any Other Relief:** That this Court deems just and proper to uphold the integrity of the judiciary and protect the rights of individuals subjected to such blatant judicial abuse.

Respectfully Submitted, this August 27, 2024.



DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D., Appellant  
750 Mourning Dove Ln. Seneca, South Carolina 29678  
[jasonboyle03@gmail.com](mailto:jasonboyle03@gmail.com)  
[\(864\) 245-3278](tel:(864)245-3278)

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE OCONEE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

APPEAL FROM THE PROBATE COURT

TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

The Order of Judge Danny Singleton

CASE NO: 2024-CP-3700451

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
WELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT  
2024 AUG 27 AM 10:15

JASON MICHAEL BOYLE-----Appellant,

V.

DANNY SINGLETON, "et al" -----Respondents

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this August 27, 2024, a copy of the Motion for Sanctions was delivered to the following parties:

1. Jim Logan: [logan@loganandjolly.com](mailto:logan@loganandjolly.com)  
1805 N Boulevard, Anderson, SC. 29621
2. Oconee County Detention Center: [jchapman@oconeelaw.com](mailto:jchapman@oconeelaw.com)  
300 S Church St, Walhalla, SC 29691
3. Oconee County Sheriff's Department: [mcrenshaw@oconeelaw.com](mailto:mcrenshaw@oconeelaw.com)  
300 S Church St, Walhalla, SC 29691
4. Oconee County Supervisor: [district2@oconeesc.com](mailto:district2@oconeesc.com)  
415 S. Pine St. Walhalla, SC 29691

Respectfully Submitted, this August 19, 2024.



DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D., Appellant.

750 Mourning Dove Ln. Seneca, South Carolina 29678

[jasonboyle03@gmail.com](mailto:jasonboyle03@gmail.com)

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT

10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

COUNTY OF OCONEE

CASE NO.: 2024-CP-37-00451

JASON BOYLE

2024 SEP -3 P 4:51


MOTION AND ORDER INFORMATION  
FORM AND COVERSHEET

Plaintiff, )

vs. )

DANNY SINGLETON, ET AL.

Defendant. )

Plaintiff's Attorney: PRO SE, Bar No. _____ Address: _____  Phone: _____ Fax _____ E-mail: _____ Other: _____	Defendant's Attorney: _____, Bar No. _____ Address: _____  Phone: _____ Fax _____ E-mail: _____ Other: _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOTION HEARING REQUESTED (attach written motion and complete SECTIONS I and III) <input type="checkbox"/> FORM MOTION, NO HEARING REQUESTED (complete SECTIONS II and III) <input type="checkbox"/> PROPOSED ORDER/CONSENT ORDER (complete SECTIONS II and III)	
<b>SECTION I: Hearing Information</b>	
Nature of Motion: MOTION TO QUASH Estimated Time Needed: 15MINS      Court Reporter Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES/ <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
<b>SECTION II: Motion/Order Type</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Written motion attached <input type="checkbox"/> Form Motion/Order I hereby move for relief or action by the court as set forth in the attached proposed order.	
Signature of Attorney for 	9/3/2024 Date submitted
<b>SECTION III: Motion Fee</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PAID - AMOUNT: \$ 25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> EXEMPT: (check reason)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rule to Show Cause in Child or Spousal Support <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Abuse or Abuse and Neglect <input type="checkbox"/> Indigent Status <input type="checkbox"/> State Agency v. Indigent Party <input type="checkbox"/> Sexually Violent Predator Act <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Conviction Relief <input type="checkbox"/> Motion for Stay in Bankruptcy <input type="checkbox"/> Motion for Publication <input type="checkbox"/> Motion for Execution (Rule 69, SCRPC) <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed order submitted at request of the court; or, reduced to writing from motion made in open court per judge's instructions Name of Court Reporter: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
<b>JUDGE'S SECTION</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Motion Fee to be paid upon filing of the attached order. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	JUDGE CODE _____  Date: _____
<b>CLERK'S VERIFICATION</b>	
Collected by: AWATKINS      Date Filed: 9/3/24 <input type="checkbox"/> MOTION FEE COLLECTED: \$ 25.00 CASH <input type="checkbox"/> CONTESTED - AMOUNT DUE: \$ _____	

SCCA 233 (11/2003)

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MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT  
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THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE OCONEE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
APPEAL FROM THE PROBATE COURT  
TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
The Order of Judge Danny Singleton  
CASE NO: 2024-CP-3700451

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT  
2024 SEP -3 P 4:51

JASON MICHAEL BOYLE----- Appellant,

V.

DANNY SINGLETON, "et al" ----- Respondents

**MOTION TO QUASH SUBPOENA ISSUED TO CAPT. JEREMY CHAPMAN OF  
OCONEE COUNTY DETENTION AND MOTION FOR SANCTIONS**

COMES NOW the Appellant, Jason Boyle, pro se, and respectfully moves this Honorable Court to quash the subpoena executed on September 3, 2024, by Jim Logan, attorney for Judge Danny Singleton, to Capt. Jeremy Chapman of Oconee County Detention, and to impose sanctions on Mr. Logan and his client, Judge Danny Singleton, for attempting to conduct improper discovery and for attempting to submit new evidence on appeal. In support of this motion, the Appellant states as follows:

1. **Procedural Background:** The Appellant was sentenced to incarceration by Judge Danny Singleton of the Oconee County Probate Court on June 17, 2024. The Appellant subsequently filed an appeal challenging this sentence.
2. **Subpoena Executed After Trial:** On September 3, 2024, Jim Logan, the attorney for Judge Danny Singleton, executed a subpoena seeking to obtain recordings of the Appellant's phone calls made during incarceration on June 19, 2024. This subpoena was issued after the date of the trial and sentencing, which occurred on June 17, 2024.
3. **Improper Introduction of New Evidence:** According to South Carolina Code Section 62-1-308(i), an appeal from the probate court to the circuit court is limited to the evidence that was presented in the probate court. The introduction of evidence obtained after the trial, such as the recordings of phone calls made during incarceration on June 19, 2024, is improper and inadmissible in this appeal.
4. **Improper Discovery Attempt:** The issuance of the subpoena by Attorney Logan represents an improper attempt to conduct discovery during the appellate process. Discovery is not permitted at this stage, and such action violates the Appellant's rights.

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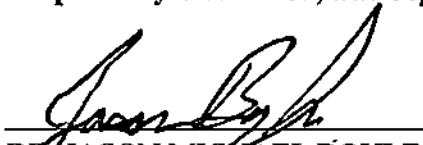
Attorney Logan's actions are a clear attempt to circumvent the rules of appellate procedure and should not be tolerated by this Court.

5. **Violation of Due Process:** Allowing this subpoena to stand would violate the Appellant's due process rights by introducing evidence after the trial, which the Appellant had no opportunity to address or contest during the original proceedings.
6. **Motion for Sanctions:** Given the improper nature of the subpoena and the clear violation of the Appellant's rights, the Appellant respectfully requests that this Court impose sanctions on Attorney Logan for his conduct. The Appellant requests that this Court consider Attorney Logan's actions as an abuse of the legal process and a deliberate attempt to violate the Appellant's rights by conducting unauthorized discovery.

**WHEREFORE, the Appellant respectfully requests that this Court grant the following relief:**

1. Quash the subpoena executed on September 3, 2024, by Jim Logan, attorney for Judge Danny Singleton, seeking recordings of the Appellant's phone calls made while incarcerated.
2. Order Jeremy Chapman, or any other custodian of the requested records, not to release any recordings or records of the Appellant's phone calls as requested by the subpoena.
3. Prohibit the introduction of any evidence obtained through this subpoena in the ongoing appellate process.
4. Impose appropriate sanctions on Attorney Jim Logan and Judge Danny Singleton for attempting to conduct unauthorized discovery in violation of the Appellant's rights.
5. Grant any other relief this Court deems just and proper.

**Respectfully Submitted, this September 3, 2024.**

  
DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D., Appellant  
750 Mourning Dove Ln. Seneca, South Carolina 29678  
jasonboyle03@gmail.com  
(864) 245-3278

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
 IN THE OCONEE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
 APPEAL FROM THE PROBATE COURT  
 TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
 The Order of Judge Danny Singleton  
 CASE NO: 2024-CP-3700451

FILED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
 MELISSA C. BURTON  
 CLERK OF COURT  
 2024 SEP - 9 A 9:52

JASON MICHAEL BOYLE-----Appellant,

V.

DANNY SINGLETON, "et al" -----Respondents

**MOTION FOR RULE TO SHOW CAUSE AND SANCTIONS FOR VIOLATION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF SOUTH CAROLINA ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER RESTRICTING THE USE OF ELECTROINC DEVICES IN COURTHOUSES, MARCH 9, 2023**

**TO: JUDGE DANNY SINGLETON, PROBATE COURT JUDGE, OCONEE COUNTY**

COMES NOW, Jason Michael Boyle, by submitting this Rule to Show Cause against Probate Judge Danny Singleton for violating the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order restricting the use of electronic devices in courthouses, March 9, 2023 (hereinafter referred to as "SCSC AO"). This order mandates that the order restricting electronic device use "shall" be posted on the door of the courthouse. Video and photographic evidence clearly demonstrate that this order was not posted on May 24 or May 29, 2024. Judge Singleton's failure to adhere to this mandatory directive has had real and serious consequences.

**FACTS**

**1. The Supreme Court Administrative Order:**

The South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order requires that any restrictions on electronic devices in courthouses "shall" be visibly posted on the courthouse door. The use of the term "shall" indicates a mandatory requirement, not a discretionary action. Judge Singleton had a clear responsibility to comply with this binding directive by ensuring that the order was posted in accordance with the South Carolina Supreme Court's mandate.

**2. Evidence of Violation:**

Video and photographic evidence from May 24 and May 29, 2024 as well as transcripts for the June 17 criminal trial of Jason Boyle, conclusively show that no such order was posted on the Oconee County Probate Court's door. Judge Singleton did not comply with the requirement to post the order on these dates, which represents a clear violation of the Supreme Court's mandate.

**3. Consequences of Singleton's Violations:**

As a direct result of this failure to post the order, Jason Boyle was unaware of any restrictions on

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the use of electronic devices in the courthouse. Despite having no knowledge of this order, Boyle was sentenced to 50 days in jail on June 17, 2024, for allegedly violating the same order that was never properly posted. Boyle served 40 days in jail for a violation he was not aware of due to Singleton's failure to follow the administrative order.

Boyle's actions did not harm anyone, yet he was incarcerated for unknowingly violating an order. In contrast, Judge Singleton's violation of the same order is much more severe because it resulted in the wrongful incarceration of an innocent individual. Boyle's case sets a critical precedent, as it demonstrates that consequences follow when an order is violated, regardless of intent or awareness. Judge Singleton, by failing to post the order and causing harm to an innocent person, must be held to a much higher standard and face greater consequences. (I would reference the case of Boyle v Singleton, Oconee County Probate Courte, June 17, 2024, here, but this case was conducted with no case number and is not to be found in the public record. It is a secret case, but I have the evidence.)

It is clear the Judge Singleton will want to claim judicial immunity. This is not a valid claim because Judge Singleton was so far out of jurisdiction that his actions should not and cannot be considered judicial in nature. He left his position as a judge when he when on the attack, violating the Supreme Court Administrative order and then holding another innocent man accountable for a violation of this same order. Singletons disregard for anything resembling procedure or justice stripped his judicial protections from him.

**4. Responsibility and Accountability:**

Judge Singleton was aware of the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order and its binding nature. It was his responsibility to ensure the order was posted on the courthouse door as required by the order. His failure to do so not only violated the Supreme Court's directive but also led to the incarceration of Jason Boyle, an individual who was unaware of the restrictions. This failure undermines the enforceability of the court's orders and calls into question the fairness and justice of the judicial process in Oconee County.

**LEGAL ARGUMENT**

The South Carolina Supreme Court's Administrative Order leaves no room for discretion in posting the order on courthouse doors. The mandatory language of the order—"shall"—imposes a legal obligation on the courts, including the Oconee County Probate Court under Judge Danny Singleton, to visibly post the restrictions. Judge Singleton's failure to comply with this order had direct and serious consequences, as it deprived Boyle of any opportunity to be informed of the restrictions, leading to his wrongful incarceration.


While Boyle served 40 days in jail for a violation he was not aware of, it is imperative that Judge Singleton faces proportionate and severe consequences for his direct violation of the Supreme Court order. Judge Singleton's failure to post the order is a violation of a far more serious nature, as it involved the wrongful deprivation of Boyle's liberty. The precedent set by Boyle's case should serve as a benchmark: if an individual can be jailed for unknowingly violating an order, a judge who knowingly violates the same order with far graver consequences must be held to account.

**REQUEST FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Jason Boyle respectfully requests that this Court grant the following relief:

1. **Order Judge Danny Singleton to Show Cause** why he should not be held in contempt criminal contempt for failing to comply with the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order by not posting the required order on the courthouse door.
2. **Impose sanctions** on Judge Danny Singleton for his willful violation of the SCSC AO, which led to the wrongful incarceration of an innocent man.
3. **Set a precedent** that violations of the Supreme Court's orders—especially by a judge acting outside of jurisdiction—must be met with appropriate legal consequences, with more severe penalties for those in positions of authority who fail to comply with their legal obligations.
4. **Any other relief** that this Court deems just and proper in the interests of justice.

Respectfully Submitted, this September ~~16~~<sup>9</sup>, 2024.

  
DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D., Appellant  
750 Mourning Dove Ln. Seneca, South Carolina 29678  
jasonboyle03@gmail.com  
(864) 245-3278

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE OCONEE COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

APPEAL FROM THE PROBATE COURT

TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

The Order of Judge Danny Singleton

CASE NO: 2024-CP-3700451

JASON MICHAEL BOYLE-----Appellant

V.

DANNY SINGLETON, "et al" -----Respondents

2024 SEP -9 A 9:53


FRED OCONEE COUNTY, SC  
MELISSA C. BURTON  
CLERK OF COURT

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this September <sup>9</sup>18, 2024, a copy of the Motion Rule to Show Cause and sanctions was delivered to the following parties:

1. Jim Logan: logan@loganandjolly.com  
1805 N Boulevard, Anderson, SC. 29621
2. Oconee County Detention Center: jchapman@oconeelaw.com  
300 S Church St, Walhalla, SC 29691
3. Oconee County Sheriff's Department: mcrenshaw@oconeelaw.com  
300 S Church St, Walhalla, SC 29691
4. Oconee County Supervisor: abrock@oconeesc.com  
415 S. Pine St. Walhalla, SC 29691

Respectfully Submitted, this September 18, 2024.

  
DR. JASON MICHAEL BOYLE, Ph.D., Appellant.  
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jasonboyle03@gmail.com