

# The South Carolina Court of Appeals

The State, Respondent,

v.

Brandon Lavon Burgess, Appellant.

Appellate Case No. 2024-002105

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## ORDER

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On April 25, 2025, Appellant's counsel moved to be relieved. On May 16, 2025, this court issued an order directing the South Carolina Commission on Indigent Defense (SCCID) to screen Appellant to determine if he qualified for representation by that agency. SCCID has informed this court that Appellant has not responded to their inquiries; therefore, SCCID has been unable to determine if Appellant qualifies for representation. Appellant may proceed pro se in this matter only after knowingly and intelligently waiving the right to counsel. *See Faretta v. California*, 422 U.S. 806 (1975); *State v. Brewer*, 328 S.C. 117, 492 S.E.2d 97 (1997). We take this opportunity to warn Appellant that this court requires pro se parties to fully comply with all applicable rules. Appellant is certain to be unlearned in other aspects of the law as well. Representation by an attorney trained in the law would be highly beneficial, and we strongly encourage Appellant to retain counsel or cooperate with SCCID's inquiries.

After considering this information, Appellant shall, within thirty days of the date of this order, notify this court whether he wishes to proceed pro se or if he would like for this court to appoint counsel if Appellant qualifies for appointed counsel. If Appellant fails to notify this court within thirty days, this court will presume Appellant is proceeding pro se. Counsel's motion to be relieved is granted.



J.

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FOR THE COURT

Columbia, South Carolina

cc:

Carla Falk Todd, Esquire

Joshua David Holford, Esquire

Alan McCrory Wilson, Esquire

Mark Reynolds Farthing, Esquire

Wanda H. Carter, Esquire

**FILED**  
**Aug 19 2025**