

The South Carolina Court of Appeals

Bruce Wilson, Appellant,

v.

Pranceton Rodrigues Williams and Ennis M. Fant,
Defendants,

of whom Ennis M. Fant is the Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2025-001550

ORDER

On August 1, 2025, Appellant filed a notice of appeal from a circuit order granting Respondent's motion to dismiss pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6) of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure in case number 2024-CP-23-02744. On August 12, 2025, Appellant filed a "motion to stay proceedings in the [Thirteenth] Judicial Circuit Court pending resolution of appeal." Specifically, Appellant moved this court to "stay all proceedings in the [Thirteenth] Judicial Circuit Court of Common Pleas that involve determinations of his status as a public figure, pending resolution of the current appeal." Appellant argues that if this court does not issue a stay, he will suffer irreparable harm, scarce judicial resources will be wasted, and there is a risk of inconsistent rulings. Although Appellant did not provide this court with a list of "all proceedings," for which he sought a stay, Appellant informed this court that "[t]he underlying action in the circuit court, *Wilson v. Fant*, Case No. 2024-CP-23-0458, involves identical parties and substantially overlapping legal issues." After careful consideration, we deny Appellant's motion.

Also, on August 1, 2025, Appellant moved this court to expedite this appeal. A motion to expedite is generally premature if made before the record on appeal and final briefs are filed. *See Maner v. Maner*, 278 S.C. 377, 380, 296 S.E.2d 533, 535 (1982) (explaining that motions to expedite were premature in cases where the briefs remained outstanding). Because the parties have not served and filed the

record on appeal and final briefs, Appellant's motion to expedite is denied without prejudice.



J.

FOR THE COURT

Columbia, South Carolina

cc:
Bruce Wilson
Austin Drake Nichols, Esquire

FILED
Aug 26 2025