

Aug 27 2025

S.C. SUPREME COURT

August 27, 2025

VIA E-FILING

The Honorable Patricia A. Howard
Clerk of Court
Supreme Court of South Carolina
1231 Gervais Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Re: Julia Brooker v. Beacham O. Brooker, Jr.
Appellate Case No. 2024-001115

Dear Ms. Howard,

I am in receipt of Jim Griffin's letter to you, dated August 27, 2025. Mr. Griffin, Margaret Fox, William Newsome, and Meagan MacBean represent Julia Brooker. Thornwell ("Biff") Sowell and I represent Beacham O. Brooker Jr. and Ellen Corontzes.

I do not disagree with the majority of Mr. Griffin's letter with the exception of one point. In his letter to you, Mr. Griffin phrases the question presented as "whether the Supreme Court intended to limit the jurisdiction of further proceedings to **enforce** the Probate Orders to the Richland County Court of Common Pleas, or does the Remittitur also confer jurisdiction upon the Richland County Probate Court to **enforce** the Probate Orders?" (Emphasis added.)

It is our clients' position that they are in compliance with the probate court orders. Therefore, it is not an "enforcement" issue from my clients' perspective. Rather, Julia Brooker's motion goes to whether she is entitled to an interim distribution from a trust.

Out of an abundance of caution, I write to clarify this issue so that the Supreme Court is aware of our clients' position and to preserve our arguments and not concede, but rather dispute, that there is any compliance issue.

Judge McCulloch and opposing counsel are copied on this correspondence.

BESS J. DURANT

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Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bess J. DuRant". The signature is stylized with a large initial "B" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Bess J. DuRant

cc: The Honorable Amy McCulloch (via email)
James M. Griffin (via email)
Margaret N. Fox (via email)
Billy Newsome (via email)
Meagan MacBean (via email)

