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**Sep 10 2025**

**SC Court of Appeals**

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In The Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM HAMPTON COUNTY  
Court of Common Pleas

R. Lawton McIntosh, Circuit Court Judge

Case No. 2024-CP-25-00409  
Court of Appeals Appellate Case No. 2025-

Peters, Murdaugh, Parker, Eltzroth & Detrick, P.A.,.....Respondent,

v.

William Barnes and Barnes Law Firm, LLC,.....Appellants.

v.

Parker Law Group, LLP,.....Third-Party Defendant.

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

William Barnes and Barnes Law Firm, LLC, timely appeal from the following orders:

1. Order granting Plaintiff’s motion to stay case and compel arbitration, issued July 17, 2025;
2. Form 4 Order Granting Plaintiff’s motion to stay case and compel arbitration, issued July 11, 2025;
3. Form 4 Order denying motion to reconsider and directing Plaintiff to prepare a formal order, issued August 29, 2025; and
4. Order (erroneously styled “Proposed Order”) denying Defendants’ Rule 59(e) motion, issued September 10, 2025.

The orders denied Appellants a mode of trial to which they are entitled as a matter of right and, therefore, affect a substantial right. S.C. Code Ann. § 14-3-330(2) (2017). Appellants must, therefore, immediately appeal these orders. *See Foggie v. CSX Transp., Inc.*, 315 S.C. 17, 23, 431 S.E.2d 587, 590 (1993) (“Issues regarding mode of trial must be raised in the trial court at the first opportunity, and the order ... is immediately appealable. The failure to timely appeal the interlocutory order of the trial court effects a waiver of appeal rights.”); *Flagstar Corp. v. Royal Surplus Lines*, 341 S.C. 68, 72, 533 S.E.2d 331, 333 (2000) (“when a trial court’s order deprives a party of a mode of trial to which it is entitled as a matter of right, such order is immediately appealable”); *Creed v. Stokes*, 285 S.C. 542, 542-543, 331 S.E.2d 351, 352 (1985) (a party must immediately appeal an order affecting a mode of trial, “a substantial right”).

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-AND-

  
John S. Nichols (SC #4210)  
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*Attorneys for the Defendants/Third-Party Plaintiffs  
William Barnes and Barnes Law Firm, LLC*

September 10, 2025  
Columbia, South Carolina

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**SC Court of Appeals**

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In the Court of Appeals

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APPEAL FROM CHARLESTON COUNTY  
The Honorable Heath P. Taylor, Charleston County Clerk of Court

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Circuit Court Case No.: 2024-CP-25-00409

Peters, Murdaugh, Parker, Eltzroth & Detrick, PA.....Respondent,

vs.

William Barnes and Barnes Law Firm, LLC,.....Appellants.

vs.

Parker Law Group, LLP,.....Third- Party Defendant.

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

I certify that I have served a copy of the Notice of Appeal for the Appellants on all counsel, by emailing a copy of the same on September 10, 2025, by address as follows:

Robert R. Gergel, Esq.  
[richardgergel@piercesloan.com](mailto:richardgergel@piercesloan.com)  
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Meredith Brown  
Legal Assistant to John S. Nichols, Esq.

Bluestein Thompson Sullivan, LLC  
meredith@bluesteinattorneys.com

September 10, 2025

cc: John S. Nichols, Esq. ([john@bluesteinattorneys.com](mailto:john@bluesteinattorneys.com))  
James B. Hood, Esq. ([james.hood@hoodlaw.com](mailto:james.hood@hoodlaw.com))  
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## Meredith Brown

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**From:** Meredith Brown  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 10, 2025 4:40 PM  
**To:** 'richardgergel@piercesloan.com'; Carl Pierce  
**Cc:** John Nichols; Jamie Hood; 'collier.jones@hoodlaw.com'  
**Subject:** Notice of Appeal- PMPED v W Barnes and Barnes Law Firm v Parker Law Group, LLP  
**Attachments:** 2025.09.10- Notice of Appeal.pdf

**Categories:** Smokeball

All,

Please see attached the Notice of Appeal for filing on behalf of the Appellants, in the above referenced matter.

Thank you,  
Meredith



**MEREDITH BROWN OFFICE MANAGER &  
LEGAL ASSISTANT TO JOHN S. NICHOLS**

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September 10, 2025

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL** ([ctappfilings@sccourts.org](mailto:ctappfilings@sccourts.org))

The Hon. Jenny A. Kitchings  
Clerk of the Court of Appeals  
Court of Appeals of South Carolina  
1220 Senate Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

RE: Peters, Murdaugh, Parker, Eltzroth & Detrick, P.A., Respondent vs. William Barnes and Barnes Law Firm, LLC, Appellants vs. Parker Law Group, LLP, Third-Party Defendant.  
Case No: 2024-CP-25-00409

Dear Ms. Kitchings:

I have enclosed for filing the Notice of Appeal with the Proof of Service for the Appellant's regarding the above matter.

A \$250.00 filing fee check has been placed in the mail to be delivered within five (5) business days.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need any additional information.

With kind regards,



\_\_\_\_\_  
Meredith Brown

Legal Assistant to John S. Nichols, Esq.  
Bluestein Thompson Sullivan, LLC

cc: James B. Hood ([james.hood@hoodlaw.com](mailto:james.hood@hoodlaw.com))  
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