

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

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OCT 07 2025

SC Court of Appeals

Appeal from Georgetown County
Roger M. Young, Sr., Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

v.

JODY L. WARD,

APPELLANT PRO-SE

Appellate case No. unknown at this time
Case # 2003-~~GS~~-22-1030 & 1031

MOTION TO RELIEVE COUNSEL
TRISTAN M. SHAFFER FOR
"CONFLICT OF INTEREST"

Jody Lynn Ward, #300644
Tyger River Corr. Inst.
200 Prison Rd.
Endree, S.C. 29335
APPELLANT PRO-SE

In 2017, the Appellant filed an Application for D.N.A. testing, at that time Attorney Tristan M. Shaffer represented the Appellant on a Motion for a new Trial Based on After Discovered Evidence Rule 29(B), Appellate case no. 2021-000702; opinion no. 2023-10-001, Dismissed as Improvidently Granted/State vs. Ward. On or about 2021 the Appellants family further retain Attorney Tristan M. Shaffer to represent him in an Application for Post conviction Relief, which the Honorable Roger M. Young SR, along with the Georgetown County Clerk of Court Appointed new Counsel due to Appellants Indigent status and Relieved Counsel on August, 2025, from May, 2025 Hearing.

The Appellant fired Attorney Tristan M. Shaffer on the Record on the D.N.A. Testing Hearing and/or motion for new Trial Rule 29(B) SCRCrim.P. which is this Appeal, yet Honorable Roger M. Young SR. would not relieve him as Counsel, since that May 2025. The Honorable Roger M. Young SR. Issue orders denying the D.N.A. Testing, and the 29(B) SCRCrim.P. which is this Appeal. The Appellant Pro-se, moves this Honorable Court to relieve Attorney Tristan M. Shaffer with his motion to relieve Counsel Tristan M. Shaffer for a "Conflict of Interest" pursuant to see: Cuyler vs. Sullivan, 446 U.S. 335, 100 S.Ct. 1708, 64 L.Ed. 2d 333 (1980) ; see: Martinez vs. Ryan, 566 U.S. 1, 132 S.Ct. 1309 182 L.Ed. 2d 272 (2012)

As the Appellant was Abandoned by his retained Attorney at the May, 2025 Hearing, which caused Appellant to fire him on the Record in this very case and Appeal. I had a virtual Hearing with Attorney Tristan M. Shaffer on September 30, 2025 and he did agree to return partial refund Back to my family member, which isn't enough to cover new Counsel, He said he filed Notice of Appeal with this Court. This Appeal Follows: see: Exhibit A-Attached

CONCLUSION

Appellant Pro-se Prays this Court Grant this Motion to relieve Counsel and Appoint an Appellate Defender, from The South Carolina office of Appellate Defense, Due to his indigent status and due to conflict of Interest, As Attorney Tristan Shaffer was already relieved as his P.C.R. Attorney Already, why he was ^{hired in first place, these Appeal} respectfully Submitted, issues was really Pro-Bono.

EXHIBIT'S

- A -

Attorney TRISTAN M. Shaffer, did File Certificate of Counsel Notice to Represent the Appellate [Pro Bond in 2021], at the time He was Represented for Past Conviction Relief Application, which he has already Been Relieved of, therefore he is now a "Conflict of Interest"

Tristan Shaffer

From: Tristan Shaffer
Sent: Thursday, December 28, 2017 11:51 AM
To: 'Hixson, Scott'
Cc: 'clerkofcourt@gtcounty.org'
Subject: RE: State v. Jody Ward (post trial DNA petition)

Scott,
I just spoke over the phone to the clerk's office. They told me to tell the client to resend the application with a copy to forward to you.

I made it clear that I am not going to be representing Jody on this petition. I think that based on 16-28-60 the clerk will need to appoint someone if he is deemed indigent.

If you have any questions please feel free to call me at 803-467-2586.

Tristan M. Shaffer
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 1027
Chapin, SC 29036
803-941-7514

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From: Tristan Shaffer
Sent: Thursday, December 28, 2017 11:42 AM
To: 'clerkofcourt@gtcounty.org' <clerkofcourt@gtcounty.org>
Cc: 'Hixson, Scott' <HixsonS@HorryCounty.org>
Subject: State v. Jody Ward (post trial DNA petition)

Mrs. White,
I represent Mr. Ward for the limited purpose of filing a motion for a new trial based on after discovered evidence pursuant to Rule 29(b), SCRCrimP.

The Law Office of Tristan M. Shaffer

Litigation • Injury Law • Criminal Defense

December 29, 2017

Jody Ward #300644
McCormick Correctional Institution
386 Redemption Way
McCormick, SC 29899

*Pro-se
P.C.R. P.N.A.
Testing Pending
2003-65-22-1030*

RE: Your DNA Matter

Dear Mr. Ward:

As we discussed, the petition for post-trial DNA exceeds the scope of my representation. As a courtesy to you I spoke to the Georgetown County Clerk of Court. She has indicated that if you re-send your pro se petition with a copy to forward to the solicitor, she will accept it.

With this letter I am sending you a copy of the pro se petition and a copy of the email communications I had regarding this matter.

At this point you should have a copy of everything I have. Please write me if you have any other questions.

Sincerely,



Tristan M. Shaffer

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SC Court of Appeals

Appeal from Georgetown County
Roger M. Young, SR. Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

v.

JODY L. WARD,

APPELLANT PRO-SE

Appellate Case No. UNKNOWN
2003-GS-22-1030 & 1031

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned Appellant Pro-se hereby certify that on the date below a true copy of Appellants Motion to Relieve Counsel Tristan M. Shaffer for Conflict of Interest in the above referenced case has been served upon the Respondent, By way of placing a True & CORRECT copy in the U.S. postal mail, Postage Prepaid On This 1st Day of October, 2025 Addressed Below:

- 1.) S.C. office of Attorney General
ATTN: MR. ALAN WILSON, A.G.
P.O. Box 11549
Columbia, S.C. 29211
- 2.) Attorney Tristan M. Shaffer
P.O. Box 1135
Irmo, S.C. 29063

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Jody Lynn Ward, #300644

Jody Lynn Ward, #300644

Appellant Pro-se

Jody Lynn WARD, #300677
Tyger River C.I. L/Y-5-A-#211
300 PRISON Rd.
ENOREE, S.C. 29335

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SC Court of Appeals

October 1, 2025

S.C. Court of Appeals
ATTNS Clerk of Court, Ms. Jenny Abbott Kitchings
P.O. Box 11629
Columbia, S.C. 29211

RE: State vs. Jody Lynn WARD, #300677 Appeal from Georgetown
S.C. CASE No. 2003-GS-22-1030 & 1031 Appeal of D.N.A. Testing
and SCRCrim. P. Rule 29(B) ¹⁾ Filing of Motion to Relieve Counsel
Tristan M. Shaffer for Conflict of Interest; ²⁾ Certificate of
Counsel. Appellate Case # UNKNOWN at this Time

Dear Honorable Clerk,

Please find Appellates Original Courts copy for filing
in the above referenced matter. Please Clock-stamp
and file and forward to me a Clocked stamp copy
for my files. I thank you for all your time and
help with this matter. May God Bless you all.

Respectfully Submitted,

1/1 ~~Jody Lynn Ward, #300677~~

Jody Lynn WARD, #300677
Appellant Pro-se

cc./File
Attorney Tristan Shaffer
MR. ALAN WILSON, A.G.

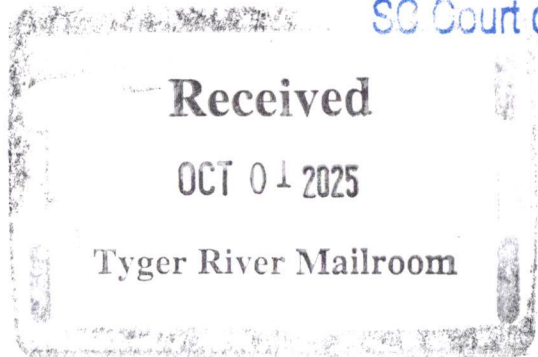
1. of 1.

Jody L. WARD, # 300644
Tyger River C.I., LY-5-A-#211
200 PRISON Rd.
ENDORSE, S.C. 29335

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SC Court of Appeals



S.C. Court of Appeals
ATTN: Clerk of Court, Ms. Jenny Abbott Kitchings
P.O. Box 11679
Columbia, S.C. 29211

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FOREVER / USA

LEGAL MAIL

29211-162929

