

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Court of Appeals

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SC 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. 2025-001849

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.

MOTION TO HOLD APPEAL DEADLINES
IN ABEYANCE

Pursuant to Rule 240(b), SCACR, Appellants William Barnes and Barnes Law Firm, LLC, move this Court to stay the appellate deadlines in this matter pending a ruling on Appellants' motion to certify this matter to the Supreme Court. The grounds for this motion are as follows:

1. On July 17, 2025, the circuit court granted a motion by Respondent Peters, Murdaugh, Parker, Eltzroth & Detrick, P.A. to stay the underlying case and compel arbitration against both Appellants;
2. On September 10, 2025, the circuit court denied Appellants' motion for reconsideration of the order;

3. On September 10, 2025, Appellants filed and served a notice of appeal from the circuit court's orders;
4. On September 12, 2025, Appellants filed a motion pursuant to Rule 204(b), SCACR, in the Supreme Court for an order certifying the case to the Supreme Court, asserting the appeal raises novel issues;
5. Respondent's response to the motion to certify is currently due on October 13, 2025.
6. If the Supreme Court grants the motion to certify, then that Court will set briefing deadlines and the parties will proceed with the appeal in that Court.
7. If the Supreme Court denies the motion, then this Court can set new deadlines and the parties will proceed before this Court.
8. Proceeding with an appeal in this Court while the motion to certify is pending in the Supreme Court would undermine the interests of judicial efficiency and run the risk of inconsistent decisions. Therefore, good cause exists for this Court to hold the appeal in abeyance while the Supreme Court considers Appellants' motion to certify.
9. All matters below are stayed pending a disposition of this appeal, so that granting this motion will not result in prejudice to either party or the Court.

Respectfully submitted,

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October 9, 2025
Charleston, South Carolina