

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF BEAUFORT

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
FOR THE 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CIVIL CASE NO. 2023-CP-07-01526

Hicham Hamzaoui

Plaintiff

Vs.

R.E. Green Construction, LLC
and Ruger E. Green

Defendants

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OCT 17 2025

SC Court of Appeals

FINAL ORDER FOR JUDGMENT
BY SPECIAL REFEREE

The within matter was tried before the undersigned, acting as a Special Referee, pursuant to the express consent of all parties. The Plaintiff appeared, pro se while the Defendants appeared and were represented by attorney E. W. Bennett, Jr.

Prior to the actual trial of the case, the Court made both parties aware that there was no Court Reporter to maintain a record of testimony and evidence. The Court advised both parties that the lack of record could severely prejudice any dissatisfied party who might seek to appeal the final decision. The Court offered all parties a continuance should anyone choose to hire a Court reporter. All parties expressed that they wished to proceed without a Court Reporter.

Prior to the actual trial of the case, the Court advised the Plaintiff that the undersigned and the attorney for the Defendants had practiced law together forty years earlier. The Plaintiff agreed to waive any potential conflict in interest and was willing to proceed with trial.

Prior to the actual trial of the case, the Court inquired as to all parties if there were any preliminary or procedural issues that this Court needed to address. No party raised any such issues. Therefore, this Court must conclude that any issues as to service, amended pleadings, failure to respond to counterclaims, etc. were expressly waived and all parties agreed to try the case on the merits.

The Court considered the testimony of the Plaintiff and his Exhibits as follows:

P-1 Contract (admitted into evidence);

P-2 Photographs (admitted into evidence);

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P-3 Photographs (admitted into evidence);

P-4 Citation (not admitted into evidence);

P-5 Power of Attorney (not admitted into evidence);

P-6 Building Permit (admitted into evidence);

P-7 Notice of Trespass (admitted into evidence);

P-8 Defendant's License (admitted into evidence);

P-9 Email of 08/07/2023 (admitted into evidence);

P-10 Affidavit (not admitted into evidence).

The Court considered the testimony of the Defendants and their Exhibits as follows:

D-1 Record from Tax Assessor (admitted into evidence);

D-2 Deed (admitted into evidence);

D-3 Claim filed by Defendant in Probate Court (admitted into evidence);

D-4 Summary of Expenses (admitted into evidence)

After consideration of the evidence and testimony presented, the Court finds that the Plaintiff has failed to prove a case against either Defendant by a preponderance of the evidence.

After consideration of the evidence and testimony presented, the Court finds that Ruger E. Green has failed to set forth any grounds that would justify an award in his favor, personally, Against the Plaintiff.

After consideration of the evidence and testimony presented, the Court finds that R.E. Green Construction, LLC is entitled to judgment against the Plaintiff on its counterclaim in the amount of \$16,667.00. This amount represents the uncontested testimony of the Defendants as to the remaining unpaid balance of the contract less the anticipated cost required to complete it.

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After consideration of the evidence and testimony presented, the Court cannot find sufficient grounds to justify any award of attorney's fees to the Defendants.

Upon consideration of the above.

IT IS ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Judgment is entered in favor of the Defendants as to the Plaintiff's Complaint.

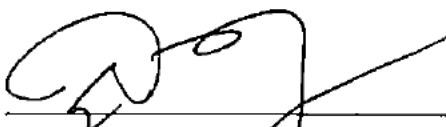
~~IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Judgment is entered in favor of the Defendants as to their Counterclaim against the Plaintiff.~~

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Defendant, R.E. Green, LLC have judgment on its counterclaim filed against the Plaintiff in the amount of \$16,667.00.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Defendants' demand for Attorney Fees is hereby DENIED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the attorney for the Defendants shall file this Order and all Exhibits to be attached to a transcript of testimony and notes at reference to be filed with the Office of the Clerk of Court of Beaufort County.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED this the ^{14th} day of August, 2025



JEFFREY M. BUTLER
State Bar ID No. 1056
Special Referee