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JAN 05 2026

SC Court of Appeals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

In The Court of Appeals

State of South Carolina,

Respondent,

VS

Ray Edward Chestnut,

Appellant

Appellate case No. 2025-001447

Trial court case No. 2025-GS-26-00631

NOTICE OF PENDING FEDERAL HABEAS CORPUS PROCEEDINGS
(28 USC § 2241)

COMES NOW, Ray Edward Chestnut, Appellant,
proceeding pro-se for purposes of notice only,
and respectfully provides notice to this Court of
the following:

1. Appellant has a pending petition for writ of habeas corpus under 28 USC 2241 currently before the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina in case no. 1:25-cv-13788-MGL-SVH,
2. The federal district court has accepted the petition and ordered the Attorney General to file a response, confirming the petition survived initial screening. A return is due by February 17, 2026.

3. The section 2241 petition challenges Appellant's current custody as unlawful, raising jurisdictional and structural defects apparent on the face of the state-court record, including the involvement of two different circuit judges without a valid substitution or assignment order authorizing the mid-trial change of presiding judge, and defective verdict.

4. Appellant files this Notice solely to:

- Inform the Court of the pending federal proceedings;
- Preserve the record; and
- Ensure transparency regarding parallel litigation that may affect appellate posture.

5. Appellant does not seek relief by this Notice and does not request this Court take any action at this time.

WHEREFORE, Appellant respectfully submits this Notice for filing.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Ray Chestnut
Ray Edward Chestnut
Appellant, Pro-se

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Ray Edward Chestnut, certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing "Notice of Pending Federal Habeas Corpus Proceedings (28 USC 2241)" was served upon the parties addressed below by via U.S. mail with appropriate postage on this 2nd day of January, 2026.

Addressee(s):

Alan Wilson, Attorney General
Office of the S.C. Attorney General
P.O. Box 11549
Columbia, SC 29211

W. Chandler Norville, Appellate Defense
S.C. Commission on Indigent Defense
1330 Lady Street, suite 401
Columbia, SC 29201

151 Ray Chestnut
Ray Edward Chestnut

Ray Edward Chestnut, SCDC #304094
Kirkland Correctional Institution, unit B2000111#28 290
4344 Broad River Road
Columbia, SC 29210

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South Carolina Court of Appeals
Attn: Jenny A. Kitchings, clerk
P.O. Box 11629
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* Legal mail

