

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In The Court of Appeals

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JAN 12 2026

SC Court of Appeals

The State, Respondent,  
VS

Ray Edward Chestnut, Appellant.

Appellate Case No. 2025-001447

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

PRO SE SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO ANDERS BRIEF

Appellant Ray Edward Chestnut respectfully submits this supplemental response pursuant to *Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738 (1967), and states as follows:

1. Appellant previously submitted a timely pro se response indicating that he believed non-frivolous issues existed for appellate review. That response was mailed from prison before Appellant received appellate counsel's Anders brief, which is dated December 31, 2025, and was received thereafter.
2. Upon review of appellate counsel's Anders brief, Appellant notes that counsel identifies and fully briefs a Sixth Amendment issue concerning the

trial court's refusal to relieve trial counsel despite an asserted conflict of interest.

3. Appellate counsel's brief argues that the breakdown in the attorney-client relationship created an actual conflict of interest, that the trial court abused its discretion by denying the motion to relieve counsel, and that the resulting error is per se reversible, warranting reversal and a new trial.

4. Appellant respectfully submits that appellate counsel's own discussion demonstrates that the issue presented is not frivolous and is arguable on its merits under controlling precedent.

5. Accordingly, Appellant respectfully requests that this court reject the Anders brief and either:

- order full merits briefing on the identified issue, or
- appoint new appellate counsel to pursue the appeal.

Appellant submits this supplemental response solely to address the timing and content of

appellate counsel's Anders brief and respectfully requests any relief this court deems appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

1s/ Ray Chestnut  
Ray Edward Chestnut  
Appellant, Pro-se  
SCDC # 304094

Kirkland Correctional Institution  
4344 Broad River Road  
Columbia, SC 29210

January 7, 2026

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served on the parties addressed below by via U.S. mail with appropriate postage on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026.

Addressee(s):

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1s/ Ray Chestnut  
Ray Edward Chestnut

(p. 4)

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