

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF LEXINGTON )  
 )  
Timothy Ray Jones, #5289, )  
 )  
Applicant, )  
 )  
vs. )  
 )  
State of South Carolina, )  
 )  
Respondent. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Case No. 2024-CP-32-01312

**ORDER APPOINTING  
REPLACEMENT COUNSEL**

This matter is before the Court regarding the appointment of replacement counsel for Applicant Timothy Ray Jones (“Applicant”) in this capital post-conviction relief (“PCR”) proceeding. On May 6, 2024, this Court appointed Lindsey S. Vann as lead counsel and Rosalind Major as co-counsel for Applicant pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 17-27-160. On December 16, 2025, this Court granted Ms. Vann’s motion to be relieved as counsel and indicated that a subsequent order regarding the appointment of replacement counsel would be issued.

The PCR statute requires at least one attorney in a capital PCR case to have either (1) prior experience in state or federal capital PCR proceedings, or (2) capital trial experience and capital PCR training or education. S.C. Code Ann. § 17-27-160(B); *see also Robertson v. State*, 418 S.C. 505, 518, 795 S.E.2d 29, 36 (2016). This Court finds that John L. Warren, III meets the qualification requirements set forth in S.C. Code Ann. § 17-27-160(B) to be lead counsel. To that end, the Court makes the following findings of fact:

Mr. Warren, of the Law Office of Bill Nettles, was admitted to the South Carolina Bar in November 2013. Mr. Warren has clerked for Chief Justice John W. Kittredge, of the Supreme Court of South Carolina; Judge Donald C. Coggins, Jr., of the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina; and Judge A. Marvin Quattlebaum, Jr., of the United States Court of

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Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Mr. Warren has received significant death penalty training, including the National Federal Habeas Corpus Seminar (2016, 2017) and the Fundamentals of Federal Capital Defense Seminar (2025). Mr. Warren has been appointed to represent death-sentenced individuals in federal post-conviction proceedings in the District of South Carolina, including *Mikal D. Mahdi v. Bryan Stirling*, No. 8:16-cv-03911-TMC, *Bobby Wayne Stone v. Bryan P. Stirling*, No. 2:17-cv-01221-MGL-MGB, and *James D. Robertson v. Bryan P. Stirling*, No. 2:11-cv-00063-TMC (D.S.C.). He is also current co-counsel in a state capital PCR action—*Jerome Jenkins, Jr. v. State*, Case No. 2022-CP-26-08071 (Ct. Com. Pleas Horry Cnty.), a capital PCR action.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

John L. Warren, III is hereby appointed as Applicant's lead counsel in this matter, replacing Lindsey S. Vann. Rosalind Major remains appointed as co-counsel.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

*RE Hood*

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Robert E. Hood  
Presiding Judge by Assignment of the  
South Carolina Supreme Court

*Columbia*

, South Carolina

*January 13, 2026*