

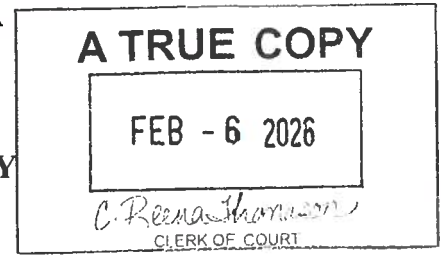
**RECEIVED**

**Feb 06 2026**

**SC Court of Appeals**

**THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In the Appellate Court**

**APPEAL FROM ANDERSON COUNTY  
Court of General Sessions**



**Patrick Cleburne III, Circuit Court Judge**

**Case No(s): 2025A0410102130, 2025A0410102164**

The State,

Respondent.

v.

Juan Albert Guevara-Frutos,

Appellant.

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

Juan Albert Guevara-Frutos appeals his conviction and sentence in this case. The Defendant pled guilty to two counts of felony animal cruelty on January 29, 2026 and was sentenced to three years suspended to three years of probation. The Defendant's case was not yet indicted and he waived indictment to proceed with the guilty plea. Several days after being released from jail, the Defendant contacted his attorney to request the filing of an appeal. Counsel is not aware of any meritorious issues to be reviewed on appeal. However, as Mr. Guevara has a right to appeal his conviction and has requested that an appeal be filed, I am therefore filing this appeal.

Date: February 05, 2026

A. Hadden Lucas  
Assistant Public Defender  
10th Circuit Public Defender Office  
Anderson, SC 29624  
Attorney for Appellant

Other Counsel of Record:  
Madeline Cromer  
Assistant Solicitor  
P.O. Box 8002  
Anderson, SC 29622  
Attorney for Respondent

**THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In the Appellate Court**

---

**RECEIVED**

**Feb 06 2026**

**SC Court of Appeals**

**APPEAL FROM ANDERSON COUNTY  
Court of General Sessions**

**Patrick Cleburne Fant III, Circuit Court Judge**

---

**Case No(s): 2025A0410102130, 2025A0410102164**

The State,

Respondent.

v.

Juan Albert Guevara-Frutos,

Appellant.

---

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

---

I certify that I have served the Notice of Appeal on the below listed respondents by depositing a copy of it in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, on February 5, 2026, addressed to:

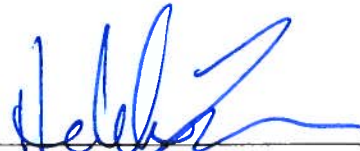
Madeline Cromer  
Assistant Solicitor  
P.O. Box 8002  
Anderson, SC 29622  
Attorney for Respondent

The Honorable Jenny Abbott Kitchings  
Clerk, The S.C. Court of Appeals  
P.O. Box 11629  
Columbia, SC 29211

Alan Wilson  
Attorney General  
P.O. Box 11549  
Columbia, SC 296211

Della White  
S.C. Office of Appellate Defense  
P.O. Box 11433  
Columbia, SC 296211

Date: February 5, 2026



---

A. Hadden Lucas  
Assistant Public Defender  
10th Circuit Public Defender Office  
Anderson, SC 29624  
Attorney for Appellant



# TENTH CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE

Anderson and Oconee Counties

Anderson County Office  
500 S. McDuffie Street  
Anderson, SC 29624  
Tel. 864.260.4048  
Fax 864.260.4134

**JENNIFER L. JOHNSON**  
Circuit Public Defender

Oconee County Office  
415 S. Pine Street  
Walhalla, SC 29691  
Tel. 864.638.3133  
Fax 864.638.0228

February 5, 2026

**Via Regular Mail**

Alan Wilson  
Attorney General  
P.O. Box 11549  
Columbia, SC 29211

**RECEIVED**

**Feb 06 2026**


**SC Court of Appeals**

**Re: State v. Juan Albert Guevara-Frutos**  
Case No(s): **2025A0410102130, 2025A0410102164**

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Notice of Appeal in the above matter along with Proof of Service upon the Respondents. The Notice has been filed with the Anderson County Clerk of Court. Also enclosed is a copy letters to the S.C Office of Appellate Defense, and the Solicitor that prosecuted the case. These matters are being referred to the Office of Appellate Defense.

Yours very truly,

  
A. Hadden Lucas  
Assistant Public Defender  
10th Circuit Public Defender Office  
Anderson, SC 29624  
Attorney for Appellant

Enclosure

cc: Office of the Tenth Circuit Solicitor  
Office of S.C. Court of Appeals  
Office of Appellate Defense



# TENTH CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE

Anderson and Oconee Counties

Anderson County Office  
500 S. McDuffie Street  
Anderson, SC 29624  
Tel. 864.260.4048  
Fax 864.260.4134

**JENNIFER L. JOHNSON**  
Circuit Public Defender

Oconee County Office  
415 S. Pine Street  
Walhalla, SC 29691  
Tel. 864.638.3133  
Fax 864.638.0228

February 05, 2026

**Via Regular Mail**

Della White  
S.C. Office of Appellate Defense  
P.O. Box 11433  
Columbia, SC 29211

**RECEIVED**  
**Feb 06 2026**  
**SC Court of Appeals**

**Re: State v. Juan Albert Guevara-Frutos**  
**Case No(s): 2025A0410102130, 2025A0410102164**

Dear Ms. White

Enclosed please find a copy of the Notice of Appeal for the above matter. The Court Reporter's name and address is as follows:

Lisa Scott  
Post Office Box 4356  
Anderson, SC 29622

Also enclosed are copies of our letters to the Court of Appeals the Attorney General Office, and the 10th Circuit Solicitor Office, as well as Proof of Service on all parties involved. A copy of the sentencing sheets and indictments are also enclosed.

Please let us know what further service we can be in this matter.

Very truly yours,

A. Hadden Lucas  
Assistant Public Defender  
10th Circuit Public Defender Office  
Anderson, SC 29624  
Attorney for Appellant

Enclosure

cc: Office of S.C. Court of Appeals



**TENTH CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE**  
Anderson and Oconee Counties

Anderson County Office  
500 S. McDuffie Street  
Anderson, SC 29624  
Tel. 864.260.4048  
Fax 864.260.4134

**JENNIFER L. JOHNSON**  
Circuit Public Defender

Oconee County Office  
415 S. Pine Street  
Walhalla, SC 29691  
Tel. 864.638.3133  
Fax 864.638.0228

February 05, 2026

**Via Regular Mail**

Madeline Cromer  
Assistant Solicitor  
P.O. Box 8002  
Anderson, SC 29622

**RECEIVED**  
**Feb 06 2026**  
**SC Court of Appeals**

**Re: State v. Juan Albert Guevara-Frutos**  
Case No(s): 2025A0410102130, 2025A0410102164

Dear Madeline

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Notice of Appeal in the above matter along with Proof of Service upon the Respondents. The Notice has been filed with the Anderson County Clerk of Court. Also enclosed is a copy of the letter to the S.C Office of Appellate Defense, and the Attorney General. These matters are being referred to the Office of Appellate Defense in that we were participating as Court appointed counsel at trial.

Very truly yours,

A. Hadden Lucas  
Assistant Public Defender  
10th Circuit Public Defender Office  
Anderson, SC 29624  
Attorney for Appellant

Enclosure

cc: Office of Appellate Defense  
Office of S.C. Court of Appeals  
Office of the Attorney General



# TENTH CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE

Anderson and Oconee Counties

Anderson County Office  
500 S. McDuffie Street  
Anderson, SC 29624  
Tel. 864.260.4048  
Fax 864.260.4134

**JENNIFER L. JOHNSON**  
Circuit Public Defender

Oconee County Office  
415 S. Pine Street  
Walhalla, SC 29691  
Tel. 864.638.3133  
Fax 864.638.0228

February 5, 2026

**Via Regular Mail & Email (ctappfilings@sccourts.org)**

The Honorable Jenny Abbott Kitchings  
Clerk, The S.C. Court of Appeals  
Post Office Box 11629  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

**RECEIVED**

**Feb 06 2026**

**SC Court of Appeals**

**Re: State v. Juan Albert Guevara-Frutos**  
Case No(s): **2025A0410102130, 2025A0410102164**

Dear Ms. Kitching:

Enclosed you will find the original Notice of Appeal in the above matter along with Proof of Service upon the Respondents. The Notice has been filed with the Anderson County Clerk of Court. Also enclosed is a copy of letters to the S.C Office of Appellate Defense, the Attorney General, and the Solicitor's Office. The Defendant waived indictment to plead guilty. Therefore, I don't believe that there are any true billed indictments. However, I have enclosed a copy the indictments and the sentencing sheets. Also, these matters are being referred to the Office of Appellate Defense.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,

\_\_\_\_\_  
A. Hadden Lucas  
Assistant Public Defender  
10th Circuit Public Defender Office  
Anderson, SC 29624  
Attorney for Appellant

Enclosure

cc: Office of the Tenth Circuit Solicitor  
Office of the Attorney General  
Office of Appellate Defense