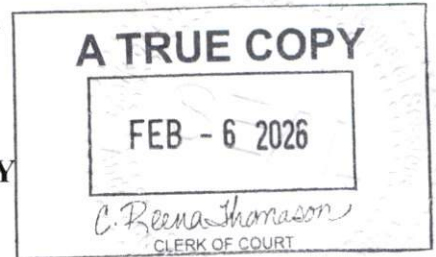


THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In the Appellate Court

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

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SC Court of Appeals

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

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THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
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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 & 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 10 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



TENTH CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE

Anderson and Oconee Counties

Anderson County Office
500 S. McDuffie Street
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Circuit Public Defender

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

February 5, 2026

Via Regular Mail

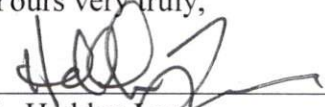
Alan Wilson
Attorney General
P.O. Box 11549
Columbia, SC 29211

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

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TENTH CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE

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February 05, 2026

Via Regular Mail

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

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

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SC Court of Appeals

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

Enclosure

cc: Office of S.C. Court of Appeals



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SC Court of Appeals

TENTH CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE

Anderson and Oconee Counties

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Circuit Public Defender

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415 S. Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691
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Fax 864.638.0228

February 05, 2026

Via Regular Mail

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

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



10th Circuit Public Defender

Anderson & Oconee Counties

500 S. McDuffie St.

Anderson, SC 29624

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SC Court of Appeals

The Honorable Jenny Abbott Kitchings

Clerk, The S.C. Court of Appeals

Post Office Box 11629

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29211-162929

