

RECEIVED

Feb 17 2026

SC Court of Appeals

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In the Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM RICHLAND COUNTY
Court of Common Pleas

Daniel Coble, Circuit Court Judge

Civil Action No. 2022-CP-40-05552

South Carolina Automobile and Truck Dealers Association,.....Respondent,

v.

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs,.....Appellant.

NOTICE OF APPEAL

The Appellant South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs appeals the following
Orders issued by Circuit Court Judge Daniel Coble:

- (1) Order Granting Plaintiff's Request for Declaratory Relief, filed November 6, 2025 (Exhibit A);
- (2) Order entered on January 16, 2026, which denied the Appellant's Motion for Reconsideration of the Order Granting Plaintiff's Request for Declaratory Relief (Exhibit B);
- (3) Order Regarding Post Trial Motions, entered February 12, 2026 (Exhibit C).

The Appellant received written notice of entry of each of the above orders on the date each order was entered.

The Appellant also appeals from all pre-trial rulings and trial rulings issued by Circuit Court Judge Daniel Coble.

s/Peter M. Balthazor

Peter M. Balthazor S.C. Bar No. 68244
RILEY POPE & LANEY, LLC
2838 Devine Street (29205)
Post Office Box 11412
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
(803) 799-9993
peteb@rplfirm.com

Counsel for Appellant

February 17, 2026

Other Counsel of Record:

James Y. Becker, Esq.
Sarah Hodges, Esq.
HAYNSWORTH SINKLER BOYD, P.A.
1201 Main Street, Suite 2200
Columbia, SC 29201
jbecker@hsblawfirm.com
shodges@hsblawfirm.com

Vincent A. Sheheen, Esq.
SAVAGE, ROYALL & SHEHEEN, LLP
P. O. Drawer 10
Camden SC 29021
vsheheen@thesavagefirm.com

RECEIVED

Feb 17 2026

SC Court of Appeals

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In the Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM RICHLAND COUNTY
Court of Common Pleas

Daniel Coble, Circuit Court Judge

Civil Action No. 2022-CP-40-05552

South Carolina Automobile and Truck Dealers Association,.....Respondent,

v.

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs,.....Appellant.

PROOF OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned attorney for the Appellant South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs, do hereby certify that on February 17, 2026, I have served all parties to this appeal (via electronic mail) with a copy of the documents referenced below:

Documents Served: Appellant’s Notice of Appeal
Exhibit A – Order Granting Plaintiff’s Request for Declaratory Relief, filed November 6, 2025
Exhibit B – Order entered on January 16, 2026, which denied the Appellant’s Motion for Reconsideration of the Order Granting Plaintiff’s Request for Declaratory Relief
Exhibit C – Order Regarding Post Trial Motions, entered February 12, 2026

Parties For Service: James Y. Becker: jbecker@hsblawfirm.com
Sarah Hodges: shodges@hsblawfirm.com
Vincent A. Sheheen: vsheheen@thesavagefirm.com

s/Peter M. Balthazor

Peter M. Balthazor S.C. Bar No. 68244

RILEY POPE & LANEY, LLC

2838 Devine Street (29205)

Post Office Box 11412

Columbia, South Carolina 29211

(803) 799-9993

peteb@rplfirm.com

Counsel for Appellant

February 17, 2026



South Carolina
Riley Pope & Laney, LLC
2838 Devine Street
Columbia, SC 29205
Phone: 803.799.9993
Fax: 803.239.1414
www.rplfirm.com

February 17, 2026

VIA EMAIL ONLY

The Honorable Jenny Abbott Kitchings
Clerk, South Carolina Court of Appeals
1220 Senate Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

RECEIVED

Feb 17 2026

SC Court of Appeals

RE: South Carolina Automobile and Truck Dealers Association v. South Carolina
Department of Consumer Affairs
C/A No.: 2022-CP-40-05552

Dear Ms. Kitchings:

Pursuant to Section (b)(2) of the Supreme Court's Order for Methods of Electronic Filing and Service under Rule 262 of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules (as amended April 24, 2024), please find enclosed for filing the Notice of Appeal by the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs with regard to the above referenced matter. By copy of this letter, I am serving copies on all counsel of record by email only pursuant to Section (d)(1) of the same Supreme Court Order.

Pursuant to Rule 203(d)(1)(B)(iii), SCACR, a filing fee is not required for appeals by agencies of the State of South Carolina.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter M. Balthazor".

Peter M. Balthazor

PMB:ams

cc: James Y. Becker, Esq.
Vincent A. Sheheen, Esq.
Sarah P. Hodges, Esq.

April Smith

From: Pete Balthazor
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 11:36 AM
To: Becker, James; Hodges, Sarah; Vincent Sheheen; Harrington, Helen
Cc: April Smith
Subject: SCADA v. DCA; 2022CP4005552; Notice of Appeal
Attachments: Notice of Appeal-final 1.pdf; Exh A- Order granting PI Request for Declaratory Relief - filed on 11.6.2025 1.pdf; Exh B- Order - Def's Motion to alter, amend, or reconsider-filed 1.pdf; Exh C- Order - re. Post Trial Motions-filed 1.pdf

Good morning:

Pursuant to section (d)(1) of the Supreme Court's Order for Methods of Electronic Filing and Service under Rule 262 (as amended April 24, 2024), please find attached for service upon you a Notice of Appeal in the above-referenced matter. The Notice of Appeal will be filed with the Richland County Court of Common Pleas and the Court of Appeals.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Pete

RECEIVED
Feb 17 2026
SC Court of Appeals

**RILEY
POPE &
LANEY**
LAW

Pete M. Balthazor | Member
Riley Pope & Laney, LLC – South Carolina | North Carolina | Georgia
2838 Devine Street | Columbia, SC 29205
803.799.9993 | [RPL Website](#) | [LinkedIn](#)
Email: PeteB@RPLFirm.com

THIS FIRM COLLECTS DEBTS FOR MORTGAGE BANKING CREDITORS AND OTHER LENDING INSTITUTIONS. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED BY THIS OFFICE WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

This e-mail message is confidential. It may contain information that is privileged or subject to other confidentiality requirements and exemptions from disclosure under applicable law. It is intended solely for the use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, notify sender immediately. Any distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited.