

# The South Carolina Court of Appeals

Jefferson Davis, Jr., Appellant,

v.

Chad Connelly, Dave Wilson, Steven Kirkland, Tom Persons, Neil Mellen, E3 Software, LLC, Endurance International Group Holdings, Inc., John Doe #1, John Doe #2, and John Does 3-40, Respondents,

AND

Jefferson Davis, Jr., Appellant,

v.

Chad Connelly, Tom Persons, Geoffrey Chambers, Esq., and South Carolina Educational Credit for Exceptional Needs Children Fund, Respondents.

Appellate Case No. 2024-002049

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## ORDER

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On December 19, 2024, Appellant filed a petition for a writ of supersedeas, seeking to stay an order of civil contempt during the pendency of the appeal. On December 20, 2024, this court temporarily stayed the order of civil contempt and remanded this case to the circuit court for an expedited hearing on Appellant's petition for a writ of supersedeas. This court's order also required a status update every thirty days. Per the circuit court's May 29, 2025 order, the circuit court is still in the process of considering the petition. On June 13, 2025, this court, aware of the May 29, 2025 order, clarified that the appeal was no longer held in abeyance while the petition was pending.

On December 29, 2025, Appellant filed a "Motion for Clarification of Jurisdiction," seeking an order confirming the circuit court lacks jurisdiction to conduct any further evidentiary hearings or take any action affecting the merits of the November 25, 2024 contempt order, which is on appeal. Respondent filed a return, opposing the requested relief, but in the alternative, seeking an order of this court denying the writ of supersedeas, affirming the order on appeal, and dismissing the appeal. Respondent also sought to dismiss the appeal on the basis Appellant has failed to timely serve and file his initial brief and designation of matter. Appellant filed a reply.

After careful consideration, we deny Appellant's motion for clarification of jurisdiction. *See* Rule 205, SCACR ("Upon the service of the notice of appeal, the appellate court shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the appeal; the lower court or administrative tribunal shall have jurisdiction to entertain petitions for writs of supersedeas as provided by Rule 241. Nothing in these Rules shall prohibit the lower court, commission or tribunal from proceeding with matters not affected by the appeal."). However, we remind Appellant that status updates are required every thirty days or this appeal will be dismissed. Further, we deny Respondent's request to dismiss the appeal. As previously determined by this court, Appellant's initial brief and designation of matter are due March 31, 2026.

  
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FOR THE COURT J.

Columbia, South Carolina

cc:

Jefferson Davis, Jr.  
J. Calhoun Watson, Esquire  
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Justin Paul Novak, Esquire  
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**FILED**  
**Feb 25 2026**