

**THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Court of Appeals**

**APPEAL FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINA ADMINISTRATIVE LAW COURT
The Honorable S. Phillip Lenski, Administrative Law Judge
Docket No. 24-ALJ-30-0192-AP**

**Kyndra Sumter Ford,
Educator Certificate No. 184236,
Appellant,**

v.

**South Carolina Department of Education,
Respondent.**

RECEIVED

Feb 26 2026

SC Court of Appeals

MOTION TO REINSTATE APPEAL AND TO FILE INITIAL BRIEF OUT OF TIME

Pursuant to Rules 2 and 260 of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules (SCACR), Appellant Kyndra Sumter Ford, by and through undersigned counsel, respectfully moves this Honorable Court for an Order reinstating this appeal and permitting the Appellant to serve and file the Initial Brief of Appellant and Designation of Matter Out of Time. In support of this Motion, Appellant would respectfully show the Court as follows:

1. This appeal arises from a final order issued by the South Carolina Administrative Law Court in Trial Court Case No. 2024ALJ300192AP.
2. On February 11, 2026, this Court dismissed the above-captioned appeal for failure to timely serve and file the Initial Brief of Appellant and Designation of Matter as required by Rules 208 and 209, SCACR.
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3. The failure to timely serve and file the Initial Brief and Designation of Matter was not the result of willful disregard for the rules of this Court, but instead resulted from excusable neglect.
4. Appellant, through counsel, has acted diligently upon learning of the dismissal of this appeal and now seeks leave of this Court to correct the procedural deficiency so that this matter may be decided on its merits.
5. No prejudice will result to Respondent if Appellant is permitted to serve and file the Initial Brief and Designation of Matter Out of Time.
6. The interests of justice favor reinstatement of this appeal so that Appellant's claims may be resolved on their substantive merits rather than on procedural grounds.

WHEREFORE, Appellant respectfully requests that this Honorable Court issue an Order:

(a) Reinstating the above-captioned appeal; and

(b) Granting Appellant leave to serve and file the Initial Brief of Appellant and Designation of Matter Out of Time.

Respectfully submitted,

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney for Appellant

February 26, 2026

St. George, South Carolina