

The South Carolina Court of Appeals

Ubong Christopher Ubokudom, Appellant,

v.

The University of South Carolina, Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2026-000348

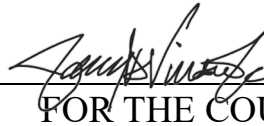
ORDER

On February 17, 2026, Appellant filed a notice of appeal from a circuit court order denying his motion for a temporary restraining order pursuant to Rule 65 of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure and providing the motion for a temporary injunction will remain as scheduled. Simultaneously with his notice of appeal, Appellant also filed a petition for a writ of mandamus or for injunctive relief. Specifically, Appellant asks this court to (1) enjoin Respondent from misrepresenting his enrollment status and withholding records until the merits of the case can be heard, (2) vacate the circuit court hearing scheduled for May 4, 2026, (3) issue a writ of mandamus directing the circuit court to schedule an immediate status conference or emergency hearing on the merits "to resolve the remaining discovery and trial schedule," and (4) retain jurisdiction until the circuit court and Respondent have complied. Respondent filed a return, opposing the requested relief, and Appellant filed a reply. Appellant also moved to proceed *in forma pauperis* and to relax the copy requirements related to his petition for a writ of mandamus. On March 6, 2026, Appellant moved to supplement the record for the petition for a writ of mandamus.

After careful consideration, we grant Appellant's motion to supplement record to the extent Appellant has provided this court with documents to review in conjunction with the petition for a writ of mandamus. However, we deny Appellant's petition for a writ of mandamus or for injunctive relief. *See City of Rock Hill v. Thompson*, 349 S.C. 197, 199, 563 S.E.2d 101, 102 (2002) ("Mandamus is the highest judicial writ and is issued only when there is a specific right to be enforced, a positive duty to be performed, and no other specific

remedy."); *id.* at 200, 563 S.E.2d at 102 ("Mandamus will issue only to compel a public official to perform a mandatory legal duty. The primary purpose of a writ of mandamus is to enforce an established right and a corresponding imperative duty created or imposed by law. When the legal right is doubtful, or the performance of duty rests in discretion, or when there is another adequate remedy, a writ of mandamus cannot rightfully be issued." (citations omitted)); *AJG Holdings, LLC v. Dunn*, 382 S.C. 43, 51, 674 S.E.2d 505, 508 (Ct. App. 2009) ("Generally, for a preliminary injunction to be granted, the plaintiff must establish that: (1) he would suffer irreparable harm if the injunction is not granted; (2) he will likely succeed on the merits of the litigation; and (3) there is an inadequate remedy at law.").

Further, the motion to proceed *in forma pauperis* is denied pursuant to *Ex parte Martin*, 321 S.C. 533, 471 S.E.2d 134 (1995). The filing fee must be paid within fifteen days of the date of this order or the appeal will be dismissed.¹ Finally, Appellant's request to waive copy requirements associated with filing his petition for a writ of mandamus is now moot.



J.

FOR THE COURT

Columbia, South Carolina

cc:

Ubong Christopher Ubokudom
Jacob Alan Biltoft, Esquire

FILED
Mar 09 2026

¹ Pursuant to Rule 240(d) of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules, this court may relieve a party from paying the filing fee for a petition or motion in extraordinary cases; however, any such relief does not impact this court's consideration of a request to proceed *in forma pauperis*.