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Mar 12 2026

SC Court of Appeals

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM SUMTER COUNTY
Court of Common Pleas
For the Third Judicial Circuit
The Honorable R. Kirk Griffin,
Acting Circuit Court Judge

Civil Action No. 2022-CP-43-01389

Appellate Case No. 2025-001006

Sumter County,

Respondent

v.

LA Express Logistics, LLC and Willie S. Spann, III,

Appellants.

**RETURN IN OPPOSITION TO
MOTION TO REINSTATE APPEAL**

On February 4, 2026, the Court issued an Order dismissing Appellants' appeal for failure to comply with the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules and this Court's prior correspondence requesting that various deficiencies be cured. In response to that Order, on February 13, 2026, Appellants mailed a letter to the Court explaining the reasons for noncompliance and requesting that the appeal be reinstated. Because the Court had previously dismissed the appeal, Respondent construed Appellants' filing to be a petition for rehearing to which no return is permitted absent the Court's request. However, in light of the Court's recent March 3, 2026 correspondence to

Appellants, in which the Court construed Appellants' *pro se* letter as a formal "motion to reinstate the appeal," Respondent submits this brief return in opposition to Appellants' request.

As the Court is aware, Appellants filed their notice of appeal on May 21, 2025. Despite this case being on the Court's docket for approximately one year, no briefing has taken place and no legitimate update as to when briefing is anticipated to commence has been provided by Appellants. "In appeals from the court of common pleas . . . , the transcript must be ordered within ten (10) days after the date of service of the notice of appeal." Rule 207(a), SCACR. Of course, our Rules anticipate the possibility of extensions for a court reporter to compile the requested transcript; however, this matter has been pending far beyond the maximum extension envisioned by the Rules.

And although Appellants argue good cause exists to reinstate the appeal, Respondent respectfully disagrees. Appellants suggest the delay is because additional transcripts were needed and have yet to be received from the court reporter. However, the only document enclosed in Appellants' communication to support this contention is an invoice dated October 13, 2025. To be certain, there is nothing to demonstrate that this transcript was timely requested and nothing to demonstrate that Appellants paid for this October invoice.

Respectfully, Respondent requests that Appellants' motion be denied and the remittitur be issued to the lower court.

(signature page to follow)

Respectfully submitted,

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s/Austin T. Reed

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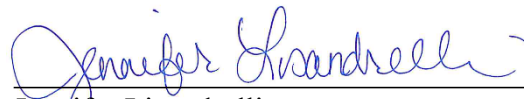
Appellants.

PROOF OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned employee of Smith Robinson Holler DuBose and Morgan, LLC, certify that a true copy of Respondent Sumter County's Return in Opposition to Motion to Reinstate Appeal in this case has been served on the following, this 12th of March, 2026, by electronic mail and depositing the same in the United States Post Office, postage prepaid, addressed to Appellants LA Express Logistics, LLC and Willie S. Spann, III at the address below.

LA Express Logistics, LLC
Willie S. Spann, III, Registered Agent
5160 Hwy 15 North
Sumter, SC 29153
Pro se Appellant

Willie S. Spann, III
5160 Hwy 15 N
Sumter, SC 29153
williespann30@gmail.com
Pro se Appellant



Jennifer Lisandrelli

March 12, 2026

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SC Court of Appeals

From: Jennifer Lisandrelli
Sent: 3/12/2026 12:17:37 PM
To: 'williespann30@gmail.com'
Cc: Murrell Smith; Austin Reed
Subject: Sumter County v LA Express Logistics LLC 2025-001006
Attachments: 2026.03.12 POS Return to Motion.pdf, 2026.03.12 Return to Motion to Reinststate .pdf
Categories: Smokeball

Attached for your service is the Respondent's Return in Opposition to Motion to Reinststate Appeal in the above matter. Thank you.



Sumter

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Camden: 803.432.1992

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