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Mar 18 2026

S.C. SUPREME COURT

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Supreme Court

APPEAL FROM SPARTANBURG COUNTY
Court of Common Pleas

J. Mark Hayes, II, Circuit Court Judge

Case No. 2017-CP-42-00219
Appellate Case No. 2025-000346

Jo Ann Blackwell, Michelene Brooks, and Samuel H. Owens,
Jr., individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated, Respondents,

v.

Mary Black Health System, LLC, d/b/a Mary Black Memorial
Hospital; CHSPSC, LLC; Professional Account Services, Inc.....Petitioners.

JOINT STATUS REPORT

Petitioners Mary Black Health System, LLC, d/b/a Mary Black Memorial Hospital; CHSPSC, LLC; and Professional Account Services, Inc. (collectively, “Petitioners”) and Respondents Jo Ann Blackwell, Michelene Brooks, and Samuel H. Owens, Jr. (collectively, “Respondents”) respectfully submit this Joint Status Report in compliance with the Court’s Order dated December 17, 2025.

Since filing their last Joint Status Report, the parties have continued to exchange and discuss several revisions to their proposed Class Settlement Agreement, and they will finalize and execute the Class Settlement Agreement in the very near future. Additionally, the parties are preparing joint submissions to the circuit court to obtain approval of their settlement, and they are filing a Joint Motion for Partial Remand with the Court of Appeals in the Second Appeal of this

action¹ so that the circuit court may take any necessary action to approve the parties' settlement.

Once the Second Appeal is also remanded, the parties will file their joint submissions in the circuit court so that it may consider preliminary approval of the Class Settlement Agreement and authorize the Claims Administrator to proceed with providing notice to the Settlement Class. After the circuit court issues an order preliminarily approving the Class Settlement Agreement, the circuit court will need to schedule a fairness hearing, and the parties will jointly move the circuit court to enter an order granting final approval of the Class Settlement Agreement. Subject to the circuit court's availability, the parties anticipate obtaining final approval and the dismissal of the action in 2026.

The parties will continue to provide this Court with status updates every 30 days—or sooner if events warrant.

Respectfully submitted,

s/Katon E. Dawson Jr.

James Lynn Werner (SC Bar No. 6029)
Katon E. Dawson, Jr. (SC Bar No. 101167)
Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP
1221 Main Street, Suite 1100
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 255-8000
jimwerner@parkerpoe.com
katondawson@parkerpoe.com

Attorneys for Appellants

s/John B. White, Jr.

John B. White, Jr. (S.C. Bar No. 5996)
Marghretta H. Shisko (S.C. Bar No. 100106)
Griffin L. Lynch (S.C. Bar No. 72518)
John B. White, Jr. P.A.
291 S. Pine Street
P.O. Box 2465 (29304)
Spartanburg, SC 29302
jwhite@johnbwhitelaw.com

¹ Appellate Case No. 2024-001546.

mshisko@johnbwhitelaw.com
glynch@johnbwhitelaw.com

John S. Simmons (S.C. Bar No. 10260)
Rachel G. Peavy (S.C. Bar No. 69397)
Simmons Law Firm, LLC
1711 Pickens Street
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 779-4600
jsimmons@simmonsfirm.com
rpeavy@simmonsfirm.com

Attorneys for Respondents

March 18, 2026