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**Mar 20 2026**

**SC Court of Appeals**



March 20, 2026

**VIA EMAIL:**

The Honorable Jenny Abbott Kitchings  
Clerk of Court  
South Carolina Court of Appeals  
1220 Senate Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

Re: O. Stanley Smith, III v. City of Columbia  
Appellate Case No. 2025-002198

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Dear Madam Clerk:

Counsel for Appellant City of Columbia submits this letter in response to the Court's March 11, 2026 correspondence requesting an update regarding the status of the transcript of the November 6, 2025 hearing in the Circuit Court.

Since our last communication, the court reporter has undertaken an additional review of the audio recording in an effort to transcribe previously inaudible portions of the transcript. Based on a preliminary review, the revised transcript appears to reduce the number of "inaudible" notations reflected in the earlier version. At this time, however, Appellant has not undertaken a comprehensive evaluation of whether the revised transcript accurately and reliably reflects the proceedings. The parties have been devoting their efforts to and have reached a settlement in principle that, once consummated, would obviate the need for further appellate proceedings, including any issues relating to the condition of the transcript.

Considering these circumstances, Appellant respectfully requests a sixty (60) day stay of the briefing schedule to allow the parties to finalize and consummate their settlement. Appellant will promptly notify the Court of any material developments, including whether the settlement is finalized or whether further proceedings concerning the transcript may be necessary.

We appreciate the Court's attention to this matter.

*[Signature on the following page.]*

Respectfully submitted,

Womble Bond Dickinson (US) LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Hall", written in a cursive style.

Kevin A. Hall

cc: Peter M. Balthazor, Esquire  
Kiera Courtney Dillon, Esquire  
William Michael Hemlepp, Jr., Esquire  
Andrew R. Hand, Esquire  
Richard A. Harpootlian, Esquire  
Tobias Gavin Ward, Jr., Esquire