



The Supreme Court of South Carolina

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Re: Bayan Aleksey v. State
Appellate Case No. 2024-000140

Dear Counsel:

It has come to the Court's attention that Petitioner's counsel Allison Franz testified as a witness during the underlying post-conviction relief hearing. The Court has requested that each party file a response to this letter by March 25, 2026,

addressing whether Aleksey and the State consent to Franz's representation on appeal, and whether Franz's representation is appropriate given that she participated as a witness below. The parties' responses must also include their positions as to whether Rule 3.7, Rule 407, SCACR applies to this matter and, if so, whether the representation complies with Rule 3.7.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Howard

CLERK