



The South Carolina Court of Appeals

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April 7, 2026

Mr. James Creighton Hayes, Esquire
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Mr. Dayne C. Phillips, Esquire
1614 Taylor Street
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Columbia SC 29201

Re: James S. Patton v. Kera R. Selzer and Dustin S. Selzer
Appellate Case No. 2025-000705

Dear Counsel:

Enclosed is the Court's decision regarding Respondents' motion to dismiss filed on March 2, 2026. This appeal is no longer held in abeyance.

Within ten (10) days of the date of this letter, Appellant shall file the proof of service of the Record on Appeal.

Very truly yours,

Jasmine D. Smith, Deputy

CLERK

The South Carolina Court of Appeals

James Stephen Patton, Appellant,


v.

Kera Rose Selzer and Dustin Stephen Selzer,
Respondents.

Appellate Case No. 2025-000705

ORDER

Appellant appealed from a circuit court order affirming a magistrate's grant of a restraining order against Appellant and in favor of Respondents. On March 2, 2026, Respondents moved to dismiss this appeal, arguing it is moot because the restraining order expired on November 5, 2025. Appellant filed a return on March 12, 2026, and an amended return on March 23, 2026, arguing the issue on appeal falls within an exception to the mootness doctrine. On March 23, 2026, Respondents filed a return, reiterating their argument that the issue is moot and does not fit within an exception to the mootness doctrine. After careful consideration, we deny the motion to dismiss. A review of the appellate briefs reveals the parties fully briefed the issue of mootness; therefore, the panel that decides this appeal will consider whether the issue on appeal is moot or fits within an exception to the mootness doctrine.



FOR THE COURT

J.

Columbia, South Carolina

FILED
Apr 07 2026

cc:

James Creighton Hayes, Esquire
Dayne C. Phillips, Esquire