

April 6th, 2026

I, Brandi N. Barnett voluntarily request to withdraw case # 2026-000-783 because the original case # 2025CR004675 was the correct appeal process involving SC State Bar to Circuit Court. There is no additional appeal option left.

Thank you in Advance

Brandi Barnett

347-927-9070

RECEIVED

APR 06 2026

SC Court of Appeals

FORM 4

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF Richland
IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

JUDGMENT IN A CIVIL CASE

CASE NO. 2025CP4004675

Brandi N Barnett
PLAINTIFF(S)

Sc Bar Fee Disputes Board et al
DEFENDANT(S)

DISPOSITION TYPE (CHECK ONE)

- JURY VERDICT.** This action came before the court for a trial by jury. The issues have been tried and a verdict rendered.
- DECISION BY THE COURT.** This action came to trial or hearing before the court. The issues have been tried or heard and a decision rendered.
- ACTION DISMISSED (CHECK REASON):** Rule 12(b), SCRPC; Rule 41(a), SCRPC (Vol. Nonsuit); Rule 43(k), SCRPC (Settled);
 Other
- ACTION STRICKEN (CHECK REASON):** Rule 40(j), SCRPC; Bankruptcy;
 Binding arbitration, subject to right to restore to confirm, vacate or modify arbitration award;
 Other
- STAYED DUE TO BANKRUPTCY**
- DISPOSITION OF APPEAL TO THE CIRCUIT COURT (CHECK APPLICABLE BOX):**
 Affirmed; Reversed; Remanded;
 Other

NOTE: ATTORNEYS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR NOTIFYING LOWER COURT, TRIBUNAL, OR ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY OF THE CIRCUIT COURT RULING IN THIS APPEAL.

IT IS ORDERED AND ADJUDGED: See attached order (formal order to follow) Statement of Judgment by the Court:

On February 4, 2026, an in-person hearing on the appeal was held, with the Honorable Daniel Coble presiding. Both parties appeared with the Appellant appearing pro se and Russel Infinger and Doug MacKelcan appearing on behalf of the Respondents. After hearing arguments from all parties, the Court took the matter under advisement.
see page 2

ORDER INFORMATION

This order ends does not end the case. See Page 2 for additional information.

For Clerk of Court Office Use Only

This judgment was electronically entered by the Clerk of Court as reflected on the Electronic Time Stamp, and a copy mailed first class to any party not proceeding in the Electronic Filing System on 02/06/2026 .

Truluck Law Firm
Office Of Disciplinary Counsel
Brandi N Barnett for Brandi N Barnett
Brandi N Barnett for Brandi N Barnett

NAMES OF TRADITIONAL FILERS SERVED BY MAIL

Court Reporter:

E-Filing Note: The date of Entry of Judgment is the same date as reflected on the Electronic File Stamp and the clerk's entering of the date of judgment above is not required in those counties. The clerk will mail a copy of the judgment to parties who are not E-Filers or who are appearing pro se. See Rule 77(d), SCRCP.

Upon reviewing the applicable legal authority and arguments made by the parties, this Court makes the following rulings.

The SC Bar Fee Disputes Board is DISMISSED as an improper party. Appellant's appeal is DISMISSED because she does not meet the requirements of Rule 20(f) of the Rule of Procedure for the South Carolina Resolution of Fee Disputes Board. The Respondent shall file a more formal order within 10 days in accordance with Rule 5(b)(3).



Richland Common Pleas

Case Caption: Brandi N Barnett VS Sc Bar Fee Disputes Board
Case Number: 2025CP4004675
Type: Order/Electronic Form 4

So Ordered

s/ Daniel Coble, 2774

Electronically signed on 2026-02-06 08:43:45 page 3 of 3

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

CASE NO.: 2025-CP-40-06986 and 2025-CP-40-04675

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Notice is hereby given that Plaintiff, Brandi N. Barnett, proceeding pro se, appeals to the South Carolina Court of Appeals from the final written Order entered on or about February 25, 2026, imposing sanctions and affirming the Fee Disputes Board's calculation of the refund.

This appeal is taken pursuant to Rule 203(b)(1), SCACR.

I. ORDER APPEALED FROM

This appeal encompasses both case numbers identified above arising from that Order.

Plaintiff appeals from the final Order entered by this Court on or about _____, 2026, including all rulings incorporated therein, specifically:

- The imposition of sanctions against Plaintiff
- The Court's affirmance of the refund calculation determined by the Fee Disputes Board

II. NATURE OF THE CASE

This matter arises from a fee dispute in which the South Carolina Bar Fee Disputes Board determined that a refund was owed due to a violation of Rule 1.5, South Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct.

The Board's findings confirmed that money was owed to Plaintiff, establishing a legitimate underlying dispute and factual basis for the claim.

Plaintiff's action was based on the non-payment of that confirmed refund and therefore was not frivolous or without merit.

III. BASIS FOR APPEAL

1. Improper Sanctions – The Court imposed sanctions despite a legitimate claim supported by Board findings and evidence that funds were owed and unpaid.

2. First Pro Se Filing – This was Plaintiff's first pro se filing in South Carolina, and there is no history supporting any characterization as a repeat filer.

3. Lack of Individualized Determination – Sanctions must be applied on an individualized basis, and the record does not support such a finding as to Plaintiff. See Rule 11, SCRCP.

4. Due Process Concerns – The Court relied on evidence not disclosed to Plaintiff, including timesheets, depriving Plaintiff of a meaningful opportunity to respond. See *Mullane v. Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co.*, 339 U.S. 306 (1950).

5. Legal Error – The Court affirmed a refund calculation inconsistent with governing principles related to noncompliant fee agreements. See Rule 1.5, RPC; *Moore v. Weinberg*, 373 S.C. 209 (2007).

IV. RELIEF REQUESTED

Plaintiff respectfully requests that the appellate court reverse the imposition of sanctions, vacate or remand the refund calculation, and grant such other relief as appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandi N. Barnett

10993 Ocean Hwy Unit 2123

Pawleys Island, SC 29585

Date: _____

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this Notice of Appeal was served upon all parties by U.S. Mail on this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Brandi N. Barnett



The South Carolina Court of Appeals

JENNY ABBOTT KITCHINGS
CLERK

CATHERINE S. HARRISON
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

POST OFFICE BOX 11629
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29211
1220 SENATE STREET
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29201
TELEPHONE: (803) 734-1890
FAX: (803) 734-1839
www.sccourts.org

March 31, 2026

Brandi Barnett
10993 Ocean Hwy Unit 2123
Pawleys Island SC 29585

Re: Brandi Barnett v. Luke Shealey (2)
Appellate Case No. 2026-000783

Dear Ms. Barnett:

Upon reviewing your notice of appeal, the following deficiency has been noted under the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules (SCACR), and any deficiency must be corrected within ten (10) days of the date of this letter or this matter will be dismissed:

- The required filing fee has not been submitted. **The correct filing fee is \$250.00.**

Very truly yours,

Catherine Harrison, deputy
CLERK

cc: Taylor Leigh Cary, Esquire
Douglas Walker MacKelcan, III, Esquire