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S.C. SUPREME COURT

4-9-26

Supreme Court

My case is currently in litigation with the S.C. Supreme Court, I am currently represented by Attorney Sarah Shipe of the S.C. indigent defense. My case was overturned in January 2025, the State appealed & attorney Shipe prepared & submitted a Return. I'm pleading with this court, moving forward; can I please proceed pro se?

I feel proceeding pro se is in my best interest for my pursuit to freedom, below I will provide my reasons. This letter is not a formal complaint against Attorney Shipe or the office of Indigent Defense.

I received a copy of the Return submitted by Attorney Shipe, the Return was vague; a lot of issues wasn't included in the Return which were pertinent on my behalf in which we discussed via email. In the Return, Attorney Shipe submitted Trial Counsel's (Roger Poole) testimony that were knowingly erroneous, insufficient, & misleading. Attorney Shipe failed to challenge Mr. Poole's false claims.

On page 6 on the Return, Attorney Shipe submitted Trial Counsel's claim: Mr. Poole contends he was "relatively new" in the public defender's office when he was assigned Cathcart's case. Enclosed is Mr. Poole's testimony at PCR contradicting his claim, Mr. Poole was employed by the

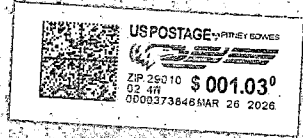
Public Defender's office 2.5 years when assigned to Cathcart's case. See PCR transcript p.72-73, Despite Attorney Poole's claim, a conflict-free attorney has a duty to investigate.

On page 6 on the Return, Mrs. Shipe submitted Mr. Poole's claim that Cathcart referred to an individual name Black & he couldn't acknowledge the street name Black was his client Mack. Enclosed is trial witness list prepared & signed by Mr. Poole with Mack's name. Poole also had exculpatory statements pointing to Mack's involvement, Mack was pointed out on a photo affidavit.

Attorney Shipe failed to submit the State's Burden shifting, see tr. p. 31-32. The State knowingly was aware of the car's arson by Mack but shifted the Burden. Not only was Mack's name on the witness list but a guy name Edward Robinson was on the witness list, which proves Mr. Poole was aware of Mack's involvement. Cathcart's family hired a private investigator who provided the exculpatory statement of Edward Robinson. Cathcart didn't know the statement & photo affidavit given by a guy name Mr. Robinson existed. Counsel failed to submit the severance issue.

Thanks.

Darius Cathcart 303003
990 Wisacky Hwy. Fl-1139
Bishopville, SC 29010



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