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FILED

2026 MAY 26 PM 12: 02

LEAH GUERRY DUPREE
CLERK OF COURT
BERKELEY COUNTY, SC

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM BERKELEY COUNTY
Court of General Sessions

Thomas J. Rode, Circuit Court Judge

Case No.(s): 2026-GS-08-00915
2026-GS-08-00917

RECEIVED

JUN 03 2026

SC Court of Appeals

The State,

Respondent,

v.

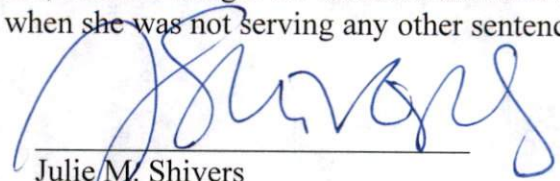
Krystal R. Salas,

Appellant.

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Krystal R. Salas was sentenced by the Thomas J. Rode, on May 14, 2026. The basis of this appeal is Section 16-15-395(D) states "Sentences imposed pursuant to this section must run consecutively with and commence at the expiration of another sentence being served by the person sentenced." The images in question that were the basis for the charges defendant pled to arose from the same incident on the same day. At the time of the plea, defendant had no prior record and was not serving a sentence of any kind. Solicitor argued to judge that the statute required him to run the 2 counts of Sexual Exploitation of a minor 1st consecutively, despite them arising from the same incident on the same date. The Defense maintains the position, and argued to the judge that since defendant was not serving a sentence at the time of the plea, that the judge could run the 2 counts that arose from the same incident concurrently. The Judge ultimately sentenced defendant to 3 years on one count, and 3 years consecutively on the second count. We are seeking for the appellate court to articulate if the statute requires a consecutive sentence under the circumstances of defendant's case, where 2 images are taken on the same day in the same incident and pled to at the same time, when she was not serving any other sentence at the time of the plea.

May 26, 2026



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Attorney for Appellant

Other Counsel of Record:
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THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Court of Appeals

FILED *MLL*

2026 MAY 27 PM 3: 02

APPEAL FROM BERKELEY COUNTY
Court of General Sessions

LEAH GUERRY DUPREE
CLERK OF COURT
BERKELEY COUNTY, SC

Thomas J. Rode, Circuit Court Judge

Case No(s): 2026-GS-08-00915
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The State,

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v.

Krystal R. Salas,

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PROOF OF SERVICE

I certify that I served a Notice of Appeal on Kamila Szymcynska-Sas, Assistant Solicitor of the Ninth Judicial Circuit, by personally delivering a filed copy of it to his office and leaving the same with Kaylie Thompson, Administrative Support Specialist, for the Solicitor's Office located at 300 B California Ave., Moncks Corner, South Carolina 29461, on May 26, 2026.

Date: 5/26/26

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May 27, 2026

Jenny Abbott Kitchings
Clerk of Court
South Carolina Court of Appeals
Post Office Box 11629
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

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SC Court of Appeals

RE: State of South Carolina vs. Krystal R. Salas
Indictment No.(s): 2026-GS-08-00915
2026-GS-08-00917

Dear Ms. Kitchings:

Enclosed you will find the original Notice of Intent to Appeal, the Proof of Service of the Appeal and a copy of the redacted Sentence Sheet of the plea in the above-referenced matter. The plea was heard before the Honorable Thomas J. Rode in the County of Berkeley on May 14, 2026. I hope the information provided will be sufficient to move forward with the appeal.

If you have any questions or need more information, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Julie M. Shivers
Assistant Public Defender

JMS:avs

enc:

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SC Court of Appeals

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