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Jun 08 2026

S.C. SUPREME COURT

From: [Lane Davis](#)
To: [James Carpenter](#); [Supreme Court Filings](#)
Cc: [Billy Wilkins](#)
Subject: RE: South Carolina Public Interest Foundation v. Oconee County , Appellate Case Number 2025-000790
Date: Monday, June 8, 2026 3:21:20 PM
Attachments: [image007.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[Lane W Davis.vcf](#)
[May 15, 2026 Letter from Supreme Court Clerk Patricia Howard.pdf](#)

*** **EXTERNAL EMAIL:** This email originated from outside the organization. Please exercise caution before clicking any links or opening attachments. ***

Dear Ms. Howard:

Our firm represents Oconee County in the above-referenced matter. Pursuant to the Court's request, please allow this correspondence to respond to your letter dated May 15, 2026 (attached).

Like Mr. Carpenter, we have no objection to the time limits and order of argument proposed by the Court.

Of further note, your May 15, 2026 letter was addressed to (among others) myself and "William Walter Wilkins, III." However, the letter should have instead been addressed to "William W. Wilkins" ("Billy Wilkins").

With that clarification, Mr. Billy Wilkins will be arguing the cross-appeal and reply for Oconee County, while I will be arguing in response to the arguments stemming from the appeal of Mr. Carpenter's clients (South Carolina Public Interest Foundation *et al.*).

Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to assist the Court in advance of the June 16, 2026 oral argument.

Best regards,

Lane W. Davis

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From: James Carpenter <james.carpenter@carpenterlawfirm.net>
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2026 2:28 PM
To: supctfilings@sccourts.org
Cc: Lane Davis <Lane@wilkinsdavis.com>; Billy Wilkins <billy@wilkinsdavis.com>
Subject: South Carolina Public Interest Foundation v. Oconee County , Appellate Case Number 2025-000790

Dear Ms. Howard:

I respond to the Court's letter dated May 15, 2026.

I will be arguing the case for the South Carolina Public Interest Foundation and the individual County taxpayers.

I do not have an objection to the time limits and order of argument proposed by the Court.

Jim Carpenter

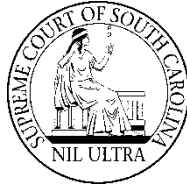
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Carpenter'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

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The Supreme Court of South Carolina

PATRICIA A. HOWARD
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May 15, 2026

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Re: South Carolina Public Interest Foundation v. Oconee County
Appellate Case No. 2025-000790

Dear Counsel:

The arguments in this case will be conducted on Tuesday, June 16 at 11:30 AM in the Supreme Court Courtroom. The arguments will also be live-streamed on the Supreme Court Video Portal at <https://www.sccourts.org/courts/supreme-court/video-portal/>, and a recording of the arguments will be posted to the Video Portal on the afternoon following the arguments.

For the time limits, the Court believes it would be appropriate to split the times for the two appeals as follows:

Arguments stemming from the cross-appeal of Respondent-Appellant Oconee County (County):

County:	10 minutes
Appellants-Respondents:	10 minutes
County:	5 minutes

Arguments stemming from the appeal of Appellants-Respondents:

Appellants-Respondents:	12 minutes
County:	12 minutes
Appellants-Respondents:	5 minutes

Please consult with each other about the proposed time limits and inform the Court of the results. I also ask that each party provide the names of the lawyer(s) who will be arguing this case. This information should be provided by e-mail to supctfilings@sccourts.org by June 8, 2026.

I look forward to seeing the lawyers who will be present for the arguments. If you have any questions or concerns related to this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Howard

CLERK